WEDNESDAY
July 1, 2026

BENGALURU
CITY EDITION
28 Pages ₹ 8.00

THE HINDU

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INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

Vol. 57 • No. 155

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

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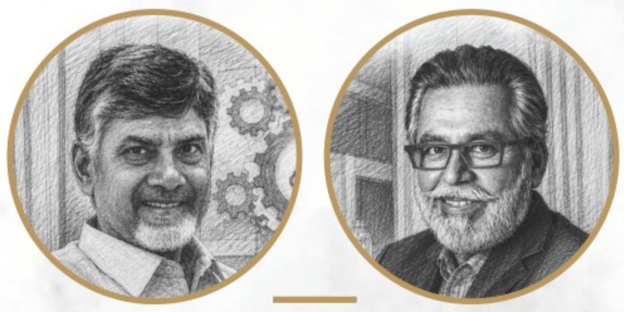

In a shared commitment to India's future, the foundation stone is being laid today, **1st July 2026**
by **Shri N. Chandrababu Naidu,** Hon'ble Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh,
and **Dr. Pawan Munjal**, Executive Chairman, Hero MotoCorp.

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Plan for Cabinet expansion gathers pace

BENGALURU
The Cabinet expansion has emerged as one of the most delicate political exercises, with the leadership attempting to contain the expectations of a large number of aspirants.
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ANNOUNCEMENT

With effect from July 1, 2026 (Wednesday), the cover price of *The Hindu* is being revised as given below:

Weekdays: From ₹6 to ₹8.
Sundays: From ₹8 to ₹10.

We hope our readers will continue to support *The Hindu*'s endeavour to provide an independent and credible source of information.

Editor

OPPORTUNITIES » PAGE 9

Below normal rain in July, current deficit 40%: IMD

El Niño impact is visible as June rainfall of 99.5 mm is fifth lowest for month since 1901 and the least since 2014; first week of July may see good rain, but broader outlook is bleak, officials say

Jacob Koshy
NEW DELHI

Rainfall in July - the most important of the monsoon months – will be "below normal" or less than 94% of what is usual for the month, Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, Director-General, India Meteorological Department (IMD), said on Tuesday. India's current monsoon deficit is 40%.

"Below-normal rainfall can pose significant challenges for agriculture, water resources, hydropower generation, ecosystem sustainability, and drinking water availability," the agency said in a statement.

"Such conditions may increase the risk of heat stress, and pressure on available water resources. To reduce potential impacts, timely planning and preparedness measures, including water conservation, efficient management of available water resources, and suitable agricultural contingency measures, may be considered by the concerned agencies and stakeholders."

Ebb and flow: People walk on the parched ground after water level receded in the Bargi Dam area in Jabalpur, M.P., on Tuesday. PTI

The outlook for July comes on the back of weak June rainfall where the shortfall was nearly 40% of what is usual for the month. The 99.5 mm received was the fifth lowest since 1901 and the least since 2014.

"Usually two-three low pressure systems in the Bay of Bengal (pre-cyclonic bands of moisture) bring rain in June. This time there was none. The El Niño that developed in June has negatively impacted rainfall," said Mr. Mohapatra. The first week of July will likely see good rainfall in India and this will benefit sowing, he said.

But with the month's rainfall expected to be weak, the overall outlook is "bleak", a senior meteorologist with the IMD told *The Hindu*. "The last two monsoons were good so we have some surplus water storage in reservoirs, but this could be drained out faster with higher evaporation (due to low rains in the weeks ahead and high temperatures)," the meteorologist added.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Gulf remittances rose in April despite West Asia crisis: Ministry

T.C.A. Sharad Raghavan
NEW DELHI

Despite the West Asia crisis, net remittances from the region to India rose to $16 billion in April 2026, the second month of the conflict, up 70% over the corresponding period of last year, show data presented by the Union Finance Ministry in its latest report.

The Monthly Economic Review by the Department of Economic Affairs said that this resilience of remittance inflows is consistent with what happened during previous crises such as the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Contrary to concerns that geopolitical tensions in the West Asia region could adversely affect remittance inflows from the Gulf economies, transfer receipts have remained robust," the report said.

"This resilience is consistent with findings that remittances are among the most stable components of external financing, remaining insulated from market volatility and geopolitical uncertainty... Unlike portfolio flows, debt flows or foreign direct investment, remittance inflows are relatively acyclical."

Flowing in

Resilience in remittances pegged to labour market conditions in the Gulf

70% surge in net inward remittances from Gulf countries in April 2026

- Often, inward remittances surge during times of uncertainty
- Risks to this could emerge if prolonged war-like situations hamper working conditions in West Asia

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 12

Over 12.48L enumeration forms given on first day of SIR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls had a steady start across Karnataka on Tuesday, with Booth Level Officers (BLOs) distributing over 12.48 lakh enumeration forms during the first day of the month-long exercise.

According to the Election Commission, 12,48,314 forms, accounting for 2.25% of the State's 5.54 crore electors, had been distributed by 4 p.m.

Online forms

A total of 47,817 forms (0.09%) had also been digitised, while 6,840 electors submitted their forms online through the ECINet platform.

CONTINUED ON » PAGE 4

Limansa — a star in the making from the Dilshan lineage

The daughter of the celebrated former Sri Lanka opener is leaving no stone unturned as she hopes to make an impression in the U-19 Women's World Cup which will be jointly hosted by Bangladesh and Nepal in early 2027; she is also looking to carve an identity of her own

Anirudh Velamuri
Lavanya L

The surname Tillakaratne carries considerable weight in Sri Lankan cricket. It evokes memories of Hashan Tillakaratne's dependability, Tillakaratne Dilshan's innovation, World Cup triumphs, and decades of service to the national side.

Now, another Tillakaratne is trying to earn that name on merit. Seventeen-year-old Limansa Tillakaratne, Dilshan's daughter, is touring India with Sri Lanka's Under-19 women's side for three T20s and three One-Day fixtures, in preparation for the U-19 Women's World Cup, which Bangladesh and Nepal will jointly host in early 2027.

She hopes to become the latest member of a cricketing lineage while carving out an identity that is distinctly her own.

It's been a steep learning curve for the outfit in Chennai, with Limansa herself, a leg-spinner, proving expensive with the ball and registering three ducks in the middle order.

Sri Lanka gave a better account of itself in the second game, bringing the margin of defeat down from 93 runs in the first match to 11 in the second, with an improved effort in the field. Limansa even struck timber as she sent back the dangerous Ira Jadhav. India won the third fixture by seven wickets to take the series, with Sri Lanka's batting weaknesses costing the side.

Catching the action

Following his daughter's run carefully, about 600 kilometres away in Hyderabad, is her father, Dilshan, currently with TG20 franchise Khammam Aces for the inaugural edition of the league. Long distance defines this father-daughter relationship.

"When I started cricket, he was actually not in Australia (where the family moved to after his retirement in 2016). I think he was in India and I was playing locally, just for fun. I was bowling, and the ball was looping. I didn't have a clue about cricket then.

"My mom (Lankan actor Manjula Thilini) said if I enjoyed it, I should keep at it, and she'd send video clips of me playing. One day, he saw something he liked and thought there was talent there work with. That's how I started playing," Limmy, as she is fondly called, told *The Hindu* after her game at the M.A. Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai.

Memories of those early videos draw out a chuckle from Dilshan.

"Limmy began playing at home in the garden. She'd normally hit tennis balls. I didn't take it so seriously then. I wanted my son to play. After my retirement in 2016, we moved to Australia as a family. I continued playing Legends League and was travelling and my wife would tell me about Limmy's thing with cricket. She was very keen. During break time in school, she'd play with the boys. One of the teachers picked up on that and took her and my wife to a local club where she signed up and started training. My wife then sent me the videos," Dilshan told this publication.

"I still have those early videos and still have a good laugh when I revisit them. She bowled all the wrong lengths, used the wrong arm. The ball would bounce thrice. But she was so keen. She'd wake up early to watch matches regardless of her schedule. It was evident she wanted to do something in the game. So, we decided to work hard on that for one year. Every day, two to three hours after school, we worked on her game," the 49-year-old added.

The youngest

The results then trickled in. In 2021, Limmy, aged 12, became the youngest female cricketer to play at the premier level when she made the U-16 squad for Cricket Victoria.

She then broke into the U-19 Victoria side and played regularly for Melbourne Cricket Club. Dilshan even fondly remembers a century she scored for Victoria. But then, the family patriarch threw his eldest a googly.

"We decided to take her to Sri Lanka. I took her to my club, Bloomfield (Cricket and Athletic Club) in Colombo. We spent time working on her bowling. We tried her out in the U-19 provincial side, where she did really well. Selectors then wanted to pick her, and she made the team for the inaugural U-19 Asia Cup in 2024 and the U19 World Cup in Malaysia last year," he remembered.

Sri Lanka made the Super Six stage of the World Cup but couldn't progress to the knockouts, finishing fifth in the final standings. But one memory stands out.

"Sri Lanka beat Australia in the Super Six match, and Limmy won the Player-of-the-Match Award," Dilshan exclaimed, the irony not lost on him. She took a wicket, giving away just 18 runs in her four overs. She also took two catches and effected a run out in that low-scoring fixture where Sri Lanka defended a paltry 99/8 with a 12-run win.

She eventually finished that tournament with seven wickets, the second-highest wicket-taker for her side behind left-arm spinner Chamodi Praboda's nine scalps.

Obvious choice

For a young bowler, leg-spin isn't an obvious choice of speciality.

"She always bowled the googly, and it came naturally for her," Dilshan, a handy offie himself, explained.

"I thought, developing it into leg-spin would be more advantageous for her, and for any side she might be a part of. It took us a year," he added, saying small but smart interventions as a coach are needed early on in a player's trajectory to maximise their success as a cricketer.

"In my bowling, I'm trying to work on my speed. I am trying to bowl flatter and get the ball to turn more," Limmy explained.

With Dilshan as coach, the conversation turned to batting soon enough. She started lower down the order but soon began opening for her side and then moved into the middle order, especially in 50-over games. Ask her about what tricks her dad has shared with her in the nets, and she asks, "You're talking about the Dilscoop, right?"

"We've been practising it. I practised it first with my dad, and I tried a few in the nets, and it came out really well. I'm just waiting for the right ball in the middle to play it," she added cheekily.

Country first

Cricketing migrations to Australia are the norm, not away from it. For the women's game, Australian systems have been the holy grail, led by a senior women's side that is head and shoulders above its competition. But for Dilshan, that Sri Lankan crest he had worn on his chest for nearly two decades meant more.

"As a Sri Lankan captain, I'm happy for my daughter to play for Sri Lanka. Yes, we live in Australia. Every facility is there. The pathways are very good, and there is no difference between boys and girls. But as a Sri Lankan, I do want her to play for Sri Lanka," Dilshan stated.

His wife was unsure about the move. But Limmy immediately got on board.

"I remember the first day she had a trial. We landed in Colombo at 11.30 or 12 o'clock at night. It was 2 am by the time we got home. She had a game the next morning. She played, took four wickets, and scored fifty-odd. On the way back home, she threw up while on the road. The time difference and the strain of it were a bit much. But she was ready. She always delivers what I ask of her. There's no complaining or saying she's tired," Dilshan proudly declared.

When performances didn't go her way, Dilshan and Limmy were out late to hit the nets.

"Even if she's come back late from a game, if she hasn't performed well, she'll say, ' *Thaathi* (Sinhalese term for father), let's go to the nets.' That could be at 10 pm. I would have to book indoor nets, and we'd go and train for an hour.

"You can see the change in where her mum is now. She was unsure before, but she's so happy with how Limmy has come along," he added.

For Limmy, it is also an opportunity to carry on her father's legacy.

"I'm actually really proud to be his daughter and to start a career, not because of him, but inspired by him really, and I'm really happy that I have this figure behind me, supporting me and always there for me whenever I need him."

Try and be better than me

When she made the national U-19 side, Limmy distinctly remembers Dilshan saying, "You're following in my footsteps. You have to be better than me. Try and be better than me!"

A day after *The Hindu* caught up with Limmy, Dilshan looks at her laughing on video as she brushes off the pressure those lines come with and can't help but smile.

"She's totally different from me. She's a leg spinner, I'm an off spinner. I'm right-handed, she's left-handed. My only message to her has always been that she needs to be a good cricketer in all three departments. When she started playing, she was a very poor fielder. As her father and one of the best fielders in the world, I was a bit disappointed when she would drop catches. We set a target for that too. I heard she was good in one of these games and put in some good stops in the field."

For Limmy, *Thaathi* is the north star. Coaches at different levels may give her countless tips, but nothing happens without her father hearing about it and giving his thoughts on its validity. That means the cricketer and coach in Dilshan is always on, but it's a relationship bedrock he has come to savour.

"I am quite happy that Limansa listens to me. Even when coaches try to change something, she will bring it to me first. I always encourage trying everything. If it doesn't work, go back to your basics!"

Huge relief

As a father, seeing systems emerge for his daughter to discover her cricketing sensibilities within is a huge relief for Dilshan.

What Limmy can only learn from someone like her father, which is perhaps most important, is managing expectations.

"I've told her that sometimes she might get dropped, even if her performances are okay. It's happened to me too. In 2008, I was benched. I went back to domestic cricket, scored heavily, and won games, but still didn't get highlighted enough to make it back. I was batting at No.6 or 7. I then pitched myself as an opener to the management. I knew Sanath (Jayasuriya) was retiring in the 2009 season, and that space was there to take. I went back to the domestic scene and scored heavily, batting till the 25th and 26th over."

"In 2008-09, I got an opportunity to play as an opener, that too in the squad, not the eleven, when we toured Pakistan (now infamous for the attack on the Lankan player bus in Lahore). I piled up runs, got 140-odd, and even won Player of the Series. But I got that chance because Upul Tharanga pulled something just before the toss in the opening game. That opening slot was mine thereafter till I retired. I took risks, but they worked. I always tell Limmy that sometimes, as cricketers, we have to take risks. She knows disappointments, drops will come and understands they are part of the package."

In the middle of a crucial school year, the Tillakaratne household has allowed her to put schoolwork on hold as she prepares to make the team for the U-19 World Cup once more.

Assignments are being sent from wherever she's playing in the meantime. The big questions are a headache for after January and Limmy is happy to just focus on being on a cricket field full-time.

THE GIST

- Limansa and her father, Dilshan, are opposites who love working on their craft together. He's an off-spinner, she's a leg-spinner. He's right-handed, she's left-handed
- Fondly called Limmy, she grew in the Australian cricketing system before the family decided that she should represent her native country
- When she broke through to Premier cricket in Australia, she was only 12, making her the youngest female cricketer to play at that level
- Limansa was part of the Sri Lankan U-19 World Cup squad in 2025 and the side made the Super Six stage

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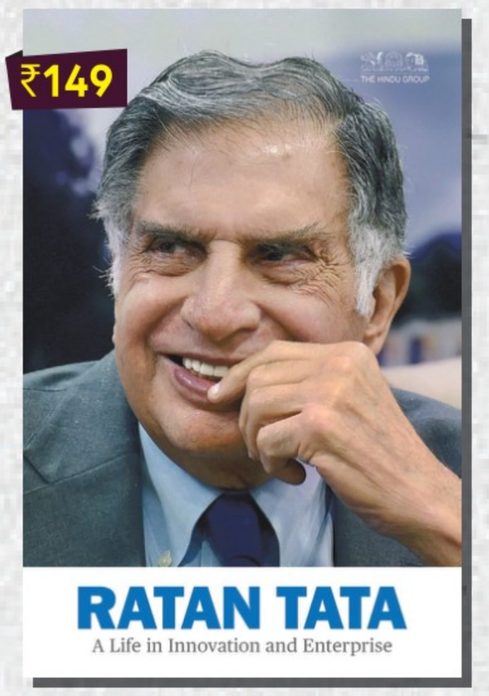

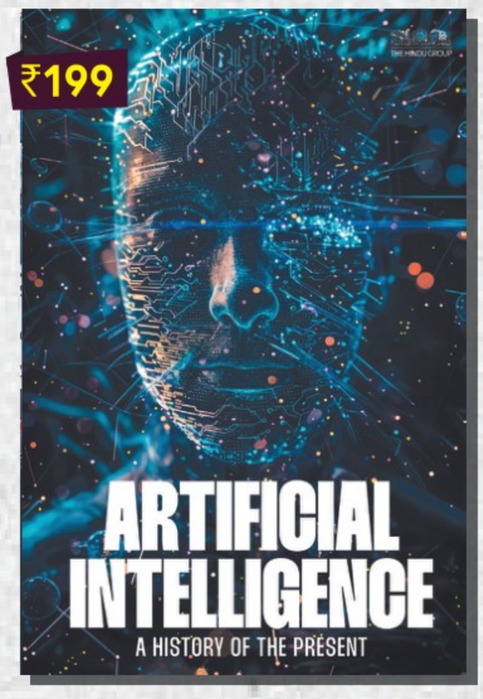

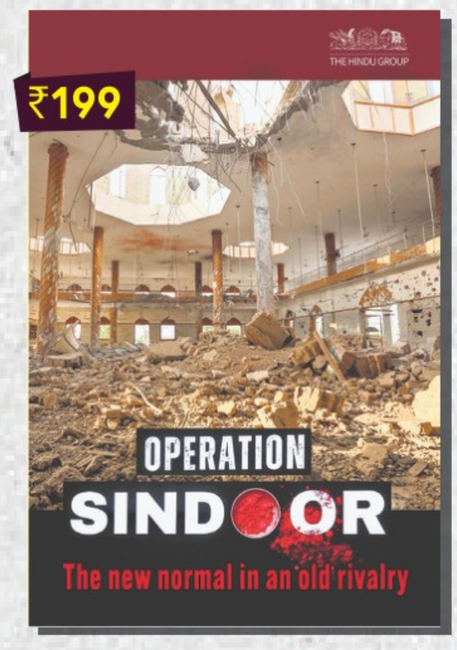

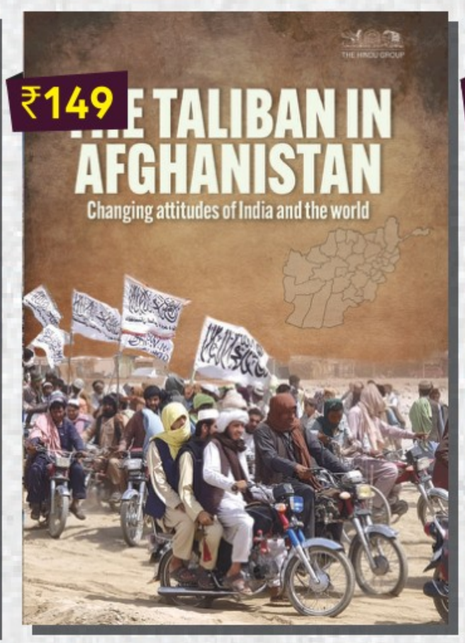

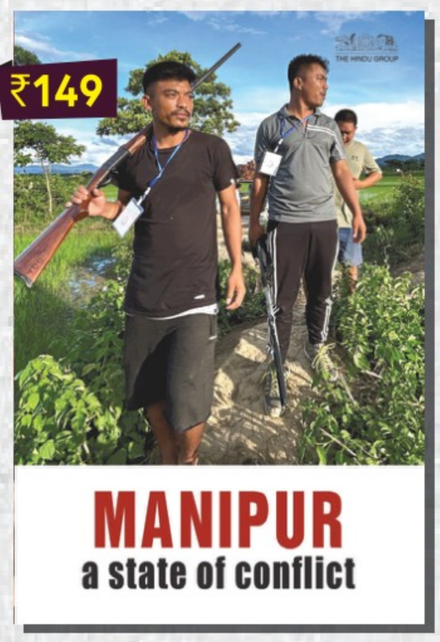

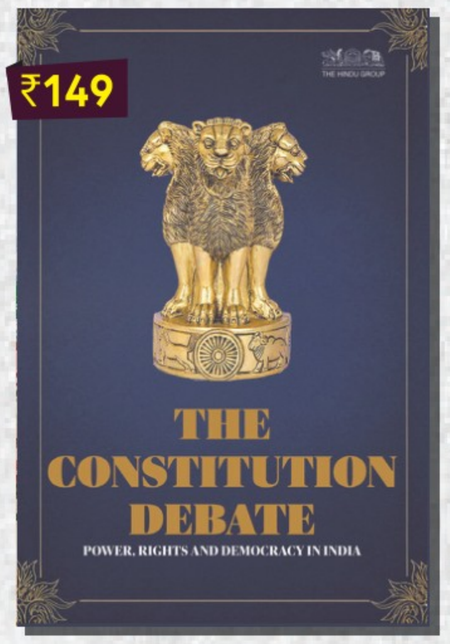

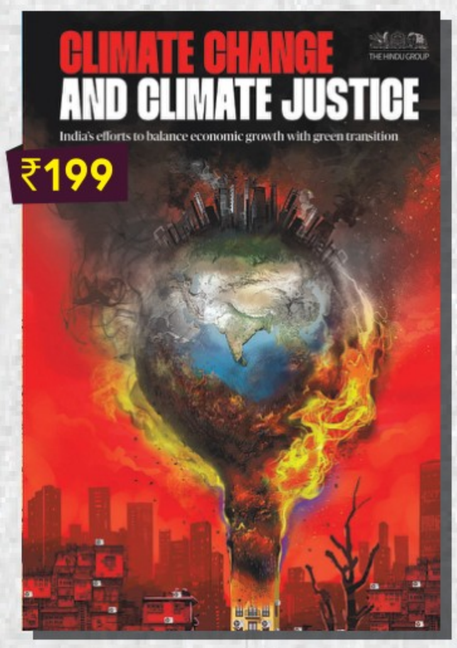

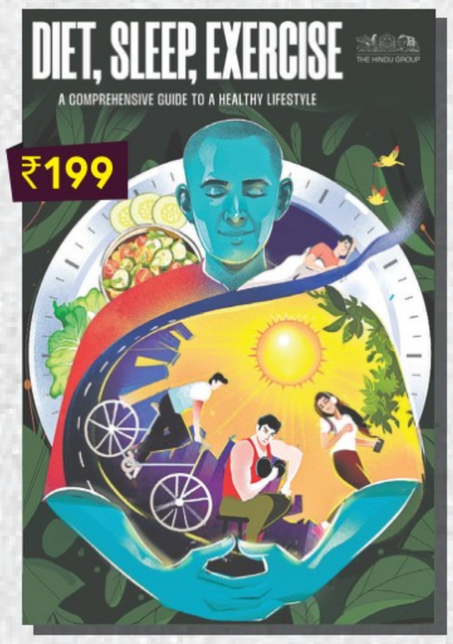

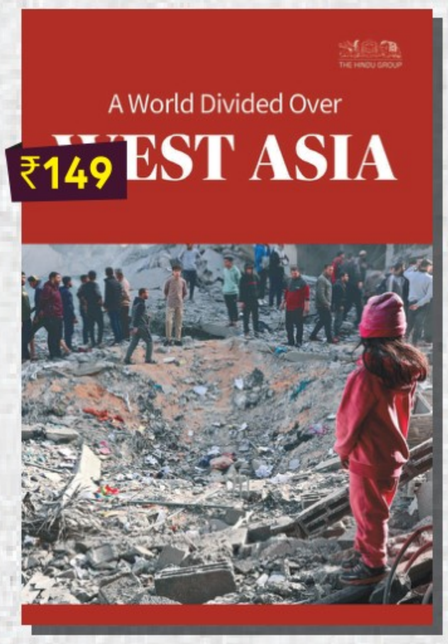

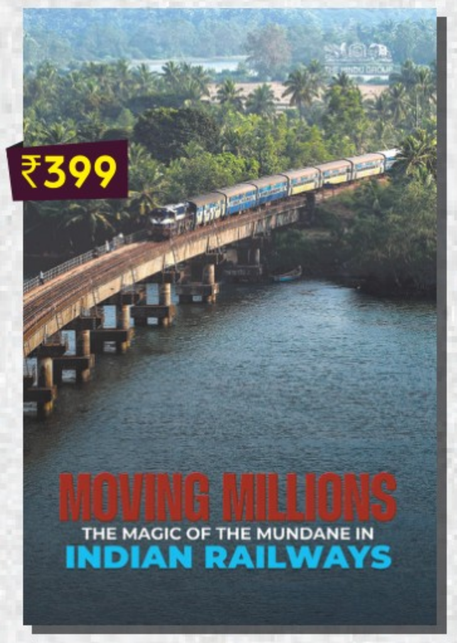

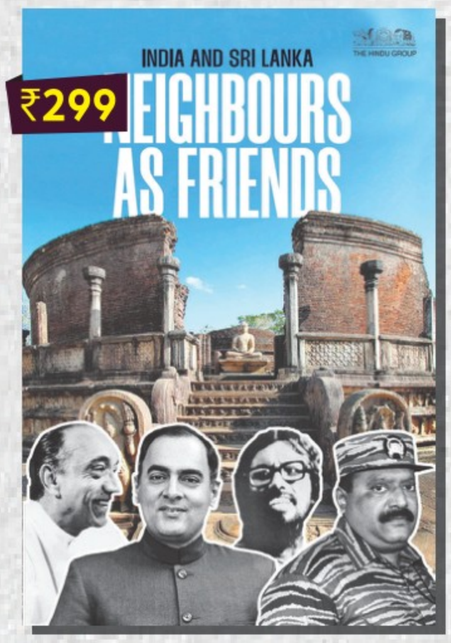

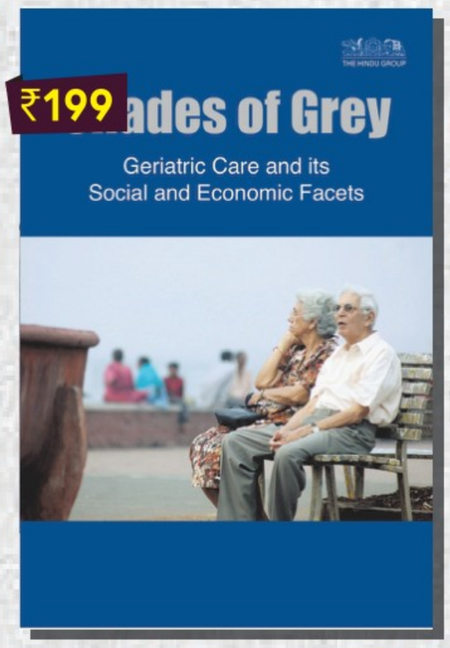

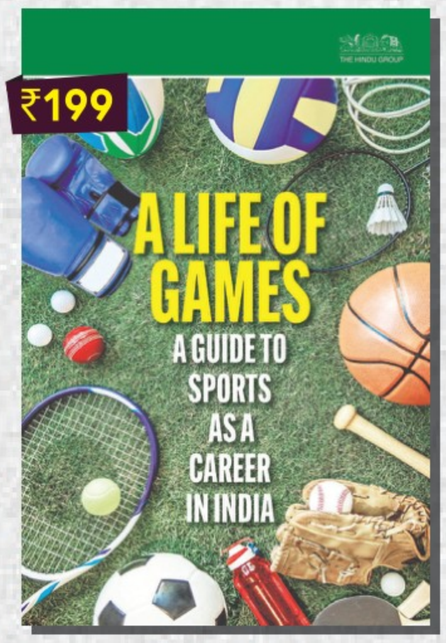

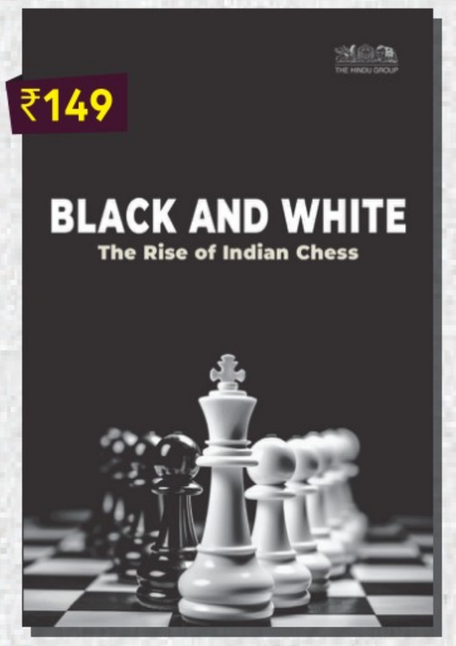

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J BG-BGE

‘Prepare plan to finish 100% ABC for strays in 3 years’

At present, the ABC surgery is being performed on about 45,000 stray dogs every year; 90,000 dogs must be targeted in the next three years under the programme, says Minister Krishna Byre Gowda

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda instructed Greater Bengaluru Authority’s (GBA) Animal Husbandry Department officials to prepare a comprehensive action plan to complete 100% Animal Birth Control (ABC) programme for stray dogs in the next three years.

Mr. Gowda said, “At present, the ABC surgery is being performed on about 45,000 stray dogs every year. This target has to be doubled and 90,000 dogs must be targeted in the next three years under the programme.”

The Minister said that despite over two decades of ABC implementation and an expenditure of nearly ₹42 crore over the past five years, Bengaluru continues to face a stray dog challenge.

To achieve this target, expand infrastructure, engage more implementing agencies, appoint additional veterinarians on contract and encourage participation from experienced organisations across Karnataka and the country, he said.

The Minister said that despite over two decades of ABC implementation and an expenditure of nearly ₹42 crore over the past five years, Bengaluru continues to face a serious stray dog challenge. Around 8.8 lakh dogs have undergone sterilisation since 2007, yet the population remains significant.

He also pulled up an official from the department for failing to present the data on the expenses incurred for the ABC programme for five years. “There are 19 officials in the Animal Husbandry Department and you couldn’t bring data on the ABC programme to the meeting. You (officer) will be relieved from duty immediately,” the Minister said.

Old trees, branches

The Minister directed officials from the five corporations to respond immediately to the complaints of dry branches and old trees reported by the residents in the city. He said, “Whenever you receive complaints of dry branches and old trees that can fall any time, respond to them immediately. When you can respond to the complaints filed by commercial establishments, why not residents?”

He appealed to people to file complaints on the GBA Sahaaya portal instead of filing them in the written format on a plain paper. “Filing complaints on the portal will help officials and residents to keep a track of these complaints which can be resolved on time,” he added.

Recently, a 52-year-old man was critically injured and slipped into coma when a dry branch of a tree fell on his head while riding a motorcycle in Rajajinagar. A similar incident was reported last year in Hanumanth Nagar when a 29-year-old slipped into coma after a tree branch fell on his head.

64,130 saplings

Meanwhile, Mr. Gowda has set a target to plant 64,130 plant saplings in the current financial year. He instructed officials to prepare a comprehensive plan by actively involving Resident Welfare Associations (RWAs) and citizens for the maintenance of the saplings.

“If the RWAs submit a request for the required saplings, arrangements must be made to supply them and plant them. Assistant engineers will be appointed as nodal officers to supervise the work. There are records that about 20 lakh saplings have been planted since 2008. However, according to the tree census, 85% of the survey has been completed, and it is likely that there are only about 11 lakh trees. Clear information is not available about the remaining saplings. Complete accountability and record keeping should be maintained for planting of saplings,” he said.

Unions condemn platform companies’ challenge to gig workers’ welfare Act

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Indian Federation of App-Based Transport Workers (IFAT) and Karnataka App-Based Workers Union (KAWU) have strongly condemned the decision of platform companies, including Swiggy, Zepto, Zomato and Urban Company, and the Internet and Mobile Association of India (IAMAI), to challenge the Karnataka Platform-Based Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Act, 2025, before the High Court.

“The legal challenge mounted by platform companies against the Karnataka Gig Workers Welfare Act is an unfortunate attempt to deny millions of gig and platform workers their basic rights to social security, welfare, and dignified working conditions. The digital economy cannot be built on exploitation and insecurity,” said Shaik Salauddin, co-founder and national general secretary of (IFAT), reacting to the development.

According to the petitioners, the State law is repugnant to the Centre’s Code on Social Security (COSS), 2020, which already establishes a uniform national framework for gig worker welfare.

Mr. Salauddin, however, termed this as a “misrepresentation of the intent and content of the law”.

“The Karnataka law only supplements and does not replace the COSS. The reality is that gig workers across India continue to remain without adequate social protection despite years of promises. States have both the constitutional authority and moral responsibility to protect workers from exploitation and fill these gaps,” he said.

He further stressed that the global labour community has already recognised the urgent need to protect platform workers through ILO Convention No. 193 (C193), the international labour standard dedicated to workers in the platform economy.

IFAT and KAWU called upon platform companies to withdraw their challenge and engage in meaningful dialogue with workers’ organisations and governments to create a fair and sustainable platform economy.

“Any attempt to weaken protections for gig workers is contrary to the principles of social justice and the growing international consensus on decent work in the platform economy. India’s digital future must be built on fairness, dignity, and social protection for workers,“ said Inayath Ali, president, KAWU.

2 VB sleeper trainsets in KSR for commissioning

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Two trainsets of the Vande Bharat Sleeper Express have arrived in Bengaluru and will soon undergo commissioning and trial runs before being inducted into commercial service, Railway officials said.

The trainsets, manufactured by BEML, were recently brought to the coaching line at the Krantivira Sangolli Rayanna (KSR) Bengaluru Railway Station, where they are currently stationed on the pit line for pre-service inspections and testing.

The Railway officials said the routes on which the trains would eventually operate are yet to be finalised.

Railway officials said the routes on which the trains would eventually operate are yet to be finalised. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Officials explained that the commissioning process involves a series of mandatory technical inspections and safety checks before a new train is introduced into passenger service.

“During this phase, railway engineers test the train’s mechanical and electrical systems, braking performance, onboard equipment, communication systems, safety features and overall operational reliability to ensure the rake complies with all prescribed standards,” the officials added.

The arrival of the sleeper trainsets has renewed expectations that Bengaluru could soon receive its first Vande Bharat Sleeper service. Earlier, Railway Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw had indicated that the much-awaited Vande Bharat Sleeper service between Bengaluru and Mumbai is expected to commence soon. If introduced, the service is expected to significantly improve rail connectivity between Karnataka and Maharashtra while addressing a long-pending demand from passengers in both south and north Karnataka for a faster overnight rail connection.

Although Bengaluru has now received two sleeper trainsets, the officials reiterated that no decision has yet been taken on whether either rake would be deployed on the proposed Bengaluru-Mumbai route or any other corridor.

Nearly six years after the launch of the first Vande Bharat Express in 2019, the country’s first commercial Vande Bharat Sleeper service began operations on January 22, 2026. Operated by the Northeast Frontier Railway, the inaugural service runs between Kamakhya (Guwahati) and Howrah, covering approximately 972 km in around 14 hours.

Designed for overnight journeys between 800 and 1,200 km, the Vande Bharat Sleeper is intended to gradually replace older long-distance premium trains such as Rajdhani Express on select routes.

Each 16-coach trainset comprises 11 Third AC (3AC) coaches, four Second AC (2AC) coaches and one First AC (1AC) coach. The train can accommodate 823 passengers, including 611 in Third AC, 188 in Second AC and 24 in First AC.

The fully air-conditioned train features modern passenger amenities, including automatic doors, CCTV surveillance, bio-vacuum toilets, sensor-based water taps, reading lights, charging points, passenger information systems and onboard catering offering both vegetarian and non-vegetarian meals.

It is equipped with the indigenous Kavach train protection system, emergency talk-back facilities and fully air-conditioned driver’s cabins with toilets.

RLJIT inaugurates programme

BENGALURU: R.L. Jalappa Institute of Technology (RLJIT), Kodigehalli, inaugurated the Global Certification Training Programme in association with Netcraftz Edutech Pvt. Ltd.

‘Quick commerce warehouse closure has left 250 workers sans pay’

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Karnataka App Based Workers Union (KAWU) has alleged that the closure of a quick commerce facility in Vidyaranyapura by officials for selling expired and spoiled grocery items has left 250 workers without work and pay.

The union noted that the neglect of the quick commerce platform’s management has put both customers and workers at risk.

“The management is responsible for the proper stocking and disbursement of safe groceries, while delivery workers are responsible only for transport and logistics. This is not only a public health issue, but a labour rights issue as well,” KAWU said in a statement.

Inayath Ali, KAWU president, termed it “utter neglect of the corporate management, forcing workers to go without pay”.

“If this continues, KAWU will have no choice but to go on strike to demand fair wages for workers who are showing up to do their job,” he said.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby notified that, my clients have agreed to purchase the Schedule Property from its owner: **Sri.PRAVEEN KUMAR S/o Sri.B.Tejraj,** residing at: No.90/91, H.B.Samaja Road, Near Charan Co-operative Bank, Gandhibazar, Basavanagudi, Bangalore – 560004.

Apart from the said owner, if any other person/s have any manner of claim or interest or demand over the Schedule property or any part thereof by way of sale, lease, mortgage, gift, lien, charge, trust, maintenance, easement, pre-emption or otherwise howsoever, they are hereby requested to file their objection/s (along with the photocopies of the documents on which they are relying), with the undersigned within **14 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Objection/s received thereafter will not be binding on my clients.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the vacant residential property bearing Municipal No.108 (old Nos.108, 108/1 & 109) PID No.46-04-108, having E-PID No.1336676169, measuring East to West: 30 feet and North to South: 108 ft., totally measuring 3240 Sq.ft., situated at 2nd Main Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore, within the jurisdiction of BBMP Ward No.140- Chamarajpet Ward, and bounded on:

East by : Property of Sri.D.Ramachandraiah;
West by : Property of Sri.C.L.Ramachandraraya;
North by : 2nd Main Road;
South by : Conservancy

Sd/- S.F.Goutam Chand, Advocate
Goutam Associates
No.60, 2nd Floor, Kanakapura Road,
Basavanagudi, Bangalore-560004

PUBLIC NOTICE

This notice is issued on behalf of my client Smt. Aruna Reddy to bring to the notice of the general public that the Unregistered Original 1.SPA dt. 16.10.2006, 2.Agreement of Sell dt. 30.10.2003, 3.Deed of Assignment dt. 16.10.2006, with respect of Site No.265, Khatha No. 106/23, measuring 8,800 Sq.ft., Situated at Ramagondanahally Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, The Said residential House Sites Layout is Popularly known as "LAUGHING WATERS EXTENSION" are has been lost at the time of travelling.

All the persons are hereby informed not to deal or carry out any transaction with anyone on the basis of the said original Unregistered SPA, Agreement of Sell and Deed of Assignment. If anyone has already carried out or being carried out kindly inform the undersigned in writing on the below mentioned address within 7 days from this present along with that Police Complaint is also given vide Lost Report No.2281203/2026, dated 30.06.2026.

Y. Sowmya Yadav, Advocate
Samvruddhi Legal, # 83, Ground Floor,
5th 'A' Cross, 21st Main, J.P. Nagar
2nd Phase, Bangalore-78. **M : 9916343921**

PUBLIC NOTICE

I have entered into an **Agreement of Sale dated 29-06-2026** to purchase the Schedule Property described below from **Mr. G. Raveendra Babu** and **Mr. Venkata Reddy,** who have represented that they are the absolute joint owners of the property and that the same is free from all encumbrances, charges, mortgages, liens, claims, litigation and third-party rights.

Any person(s) having any right, title, interest, claim or objection whatsoever over the Schedule Property are hereby required to intimate the undersigned in writing, along with supporting documentary proof, **within 10 (Ten) days** from the date of publication of this notice.

Failing which, it shall be presumed that no person has any claim or objection over the Schedule Property, and I shall proceed with the purchase and registration of the property without any further reference.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of house property bearing **Khaneshumari No.95/3, Property No.92/95/3/140, e-Khatha No.150200300600102505,** situated at **Konappana Agrahara Village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South Taluk,** measuring **1360 Sq. Ft.,** together with the existing building thereon and bounded by:

East: Drain, **West:** Road,
North: Shankarappa Building,
South: Building belonging to Gopala Reddy.

Sd/- SUDHEENDRA C P
(Proposed Purchaser)
Mobile: 9972580858
E-mail: sudheendra.cp@gmail.com

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that my client Public are hereby informed that my Client, **Mrs. SAMPAMMA** Wife of Sri. LATE SRI. MALLIKARJUNA aged about 70 years residing at # 11/1, 34TH Cross , 2nd Block, Rajajinagar Bangalore-560010 is the absolute owner in possession and enjoyment of the Schedule Property and has purchased the Schedule property from (1). Smt. Lakshmamma (2). Smt.Soundaravalli and (3)Smt.Kanthamani through registered Sale Deed on 24-11-2005 registered as Document No: RJN-1-04889-2005-06 stored in CD No: RJND81 and registered in the Office of the Sub-registrar of Rajajinagar Bangalore.

Whereas the said registered Document and Previous documents of the Schedule property i.e Registered Sale Deed in the name of M. Ramaswamy Husband of Smt. Lakshmamma who has purchased from Kempanna through registered as Document No6677/64-65 of Book1, Volume 549 Pages 73 to 76 and registered in the Office of the Sub-registrar of Bangalore City South and Registered Sale deed in the name of Kempanna who sold the property to M Ramaswamy registered as Document No: 6676/65-66 of Book-1, Volume 550 Pages 67-70 and registered in the Office of the Sub registrar of Bangalore city South have been misplaced/ lost and Smt. Sampamma has filed a Complaint before the Police Unit: Crime Branch Bangaluru City Police vide Lost Article report Serial No. 2280043 with Lost report No. 2280043/2026 dated 29-06-2026

Any person/s holding/finding/or in possession of the original above mentioned **registered deeds** of the Schedule Property or if any person has impersonated himself and has created unregistered equitable mortgage through DTD in favour of any person/Bank/Financial Institution or through any other mode of conveyance or method of conveyance such as Sale, Sale agreement/ Deed of Gift or either through Mortgage or any other claim or mortgage or through any other deed of conveyance if any, may write to the Undersigned if they have any claim on the Original document/s in/on any manner what so ever within **Seven days (7 days)** from the date of this publication and any objections, claims received thereafter will not be binding on my clients

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of previously the Easters Portion of Property No: 11, Presently Property bearing Municipal No: 11/1 (Eleven sub One) situated at 34th Cross, 2nd Block Rajajinagar Bangalore previously Division No. 2 then 11 presently Ward No: 15 of BBMP measuring East to West 22-6(Twenty Two feet and Six Inches) or 6.86 Meters and North to South 30-00 (Thirty Feet) or 9.14 Meters totally measuring 675 Square feet bounded on : East by: Venkatashammappa's property, West by: Western portion of Property bearing No: 11 sold to Smt. Ramakka from Mariyappa, North by: Lingamma's Property presently others property,South by: Road. Together with 5 square RCC roofed Building constructed on 1983 constructed with Cement Brick Walls, Widows and Doors Are made of Jungle Wood 5 square with civic amenities.

L. LAKSHMINARAYANA, B.Com., LLB.,
Advocate, #1462/33, Pipe Line, Vijayanagar
BANGALORE - 560 040. MOB: 9880039840

PUBLIC NOTICE

General public are hereby informed that, our client Mr.Anoop T.Kuruvila, residing at: 28/285/A, Thekkekarottu House, Chevayoor, Kozhikode, Kerala has lost the original Sale deed dated: 01-08-2007,reg.doc.No.MDP-1-01908-2007-08, Book-1,Stored in C.D.No.MDPD7, registered in the Office Of SRO, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru in favour of Mr.Anoop T. Kuruvila and Smt.Linet George at HDFC Bank, Kasturba Road, Bengaluru. Our client had lodged an online police complaint on 30-06-2026, lost report No. 2280574/2026.If anybody found the said document please contact this Nos.9844155041 and 9036099090.

V.S.Rai & Associates, LAW FIRM
No. 23, "Venkatadri", 2nd Floor,
6th Main, 5th Cross, Opp.Corporation School,
Sampangiramanagar,Bangalore - 560 027.
Mob:9844155041,Off:080-22223949.

NDH-11.09.2026
BEFORE THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL- I
4th Floor, Telephone House,
Raj Bhavan Road, Bengaluru - 560001
O.A. No. 410/2024

BETWEEN:
BANK OF BARODA
Branch at HBR Layout, # 805, 2nd Cross,
I Block, HBR layout, Kalyan Nagar,
Bengaluru – 560 043
Represented by its Chief Manager
.... Applicant

AND
SRI. PRAMOD KUMAR PALAI
...Defendant

SUMMONS ISSUED UNDER RULE 23(Viii) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEEDURE) RULES 1993 BY PAPER PUBLICATION

TO THE DEFENDANT
SRI. PRAMOD KUMAR PALAI
Prop: Wisdom Unisex Salon and Spa
S/o Iswara Chandra
Aged about 38 years,
Having business at No.74, 2nd Floor,
Mahadevapura outer Ring Road,
Karthik Nagar, Bengaluru 560037 and
Residing at Flat No. 106, white orchid,
Next to Glantree Academy, Whitefield,
Bengaluru – 560 066, PAN: AYXPR8211R
MOBILE No: 9731454382
DATE OF BIRTH: 04.07.1985
Aadhaar No. 844833515032

Whereas, the Applicant has instituted an O.A u/s 19 of the Recovery of Debts and Bankruptcy Act, 1993 against the Defendant for recovery of sum of Rs. 24,93,541=36 (Rupees twenty four lakhs ninety three thousand five hundred and forty one and paisa thirty six only) together with cost and other reliefs.

The above mentioned Defendant is therefore hereby directed to appear before this Tribunal in person or through an Advocate or duly authorized agent, in support of his/their defense to show cause within 30 days from the date of publication or on 11.09.2026 at 10.30 am (forenoon) as to why the relief prayed for should not be granted.

Given under my hand and the seal of this tribunal on this 15th day of June 2026.

BY ORDER OF THE TRIBUNAL
Sd/-
REGISTRAR
DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-I
BANGALORE 560 001

Advocate for Applicant
K. PRAKASH

VACANCY NOTICE

HIGH COURT OF DELHI

DELHI HIGHER JUDICIAL SERVICE EXAMINATION-2026

Online Applications are invited from eligible candidates for Delhi Higher Judicial Service Examination-2026 under 25% direct recruitment quota.

Number of Vacancies	GEN	SC	ST	TOTAL	Pay Scale
	17	05	05	27	(J-5) Rs. 144840-194660

For eligibility criteria and other details, please refer to detailed advertisement on the website of High Court of Delhi i.e. **www.delhihighcourt.nic.in** from 01.07.2026 onwards.

Registration of Online Applications

Starting Date & Time: 01.07.2026 (1000 Hours)
Closing Date & Time: 15.07.2026 (1730 Hours)

All further notifications, corrigendum etc. related to this advertisement, if any, will be published ONLY on the official website of Delhi High Court.

Sd/-
(Arun Bhardwaj)
Registrar General

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PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, NAZIMA HANEEF W/O MOHAMMED HANEEF, Aged about 53 years, Residing at No.104, 8th Main, 9th Cross, SBM Colony, Brindavananagar, Mathikere, Bengaluru 560054, have changed my name to NAZEEMA HANEEF vide affidavit dated 29/06/2026, Sworn Before Notary Meer Hassan, Bengaluru.

I, RAFIQ Ahmed Khalil Ur Rahman, R/o No 7 Muniswami Building, Opp Hnauman Krishna Jewelery, Nanjappa Colony, Rasheed Road, Arabic College Post, Bengaluru-560045 have changed my name to Rafiq Ahmed vide affidavit dt: 29.06.2026 sworn before Notary Sumithra.N, B'lore.

I, SUNIL, R/o No 26, Avlon Layout, Near Briliant National School, Byappanahalli Shiva Garden, Mandur, Bengaluru-560049 have changed my name to Sunil Bermu Poojary vide affidavit dt: 29.06.2026 sworn before Notary Sumithra.N, B'lore.

I, S. Surendar, S/o. Natrayan Sakthivel, aged about 36 years, R/at No. 56, 2nd Main, Thalakaverinagar layout, Bangalore-560 037 have Changed my Name to N.S. SURIYAA vide affidavit dated 23.06.2011. Sworn before notary Vijayakumar, Bangalore.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Riyaz S/o Khuddus Sab R/o #52/1, GF, Pawan Nebula Apts, 4th Cross, 8th Main Rd, SBM Colony, Brindavan Nagar Mathikere B'lore 560054 have changed my name to Riyaz Ahamad for all purposes.

I, SAVITHA A, W/o A.Raghavendra Prasad, R/a No.17/3, 7th Cross, 6th Main, Narasimha Raja Colony, Bengaluru-560004 have changed my name from Kavitha to Savitha A vide affidavit dt: 30.06.2026 sworn before Notary S.N.Madhu, B'lore.

I, S Aravind Raj S/O V Shanmugam R/O H. No. 47, 3rd Cross, Near R R College, R R Layout, Chikkabanavara, Dist. Bengaluru (Karnataka) – 560090 have changed the name of my minor son Manish S A aged 14 years and he shall hereafter be known as A MITESH ADHIRAN.

I, ESHA Bagla, D/o Mr. Lalit Kumar Bagla R/a No 11, Bride Street, Langford Town, Bangalore 560025, Karnataka have changed my name from Esha Bagla to Esha A Dewani vide Affidavit Dated: 13/11/2025, Sworn before Notary Mr. Ganagaraju . Henceforth I shall be known as Esha A Dewani for all official purposes.

PERSONAL

CHANGE OF NAME

I, Basira Banu alias Rahamunnisa W/o Riyaz Ahamad R/o 52/1, Pawan Nebula Appt, 4th Cross, 8th Main Rd, SBM Colony Brindavan Nagar Mathikere B'lore 560054. have changed my name to Bashira Banu for all purposes.

BUSINESS OFFERS

HOSPITAL FOR Lease/ Sale in a prominent area in Bangalore. 7795505525

LEGAL NOTICE

BEFORE THE HON'BLE COURT OF THE FAMILY JUDGE AT PONDICHERRY
Crl. M.P. No. 48 / 2025
Against
Cr. M.P. No. 99 of 2016
in
M.C. No. 28 of 2016

1.R.Thalirkodi, D/o.Ramagandhi
2.M.Aishwarya (Minor)
3.M.Aradhya (Minor)
4.M.Anishkaa (Minor)
Petitioners 2 to 4 are minors are Rep., by their mother the 1st petitioner, all petitioner are residing at Door No.20, New Iyyanar Koil Street, Kosapalayam,Pondicherry-605013
.... Petitioner/Petitioner/Petitioner
Vs
R.Manjunath, M/39
... Respondent/Respondent/Respondent
To
R.Manjunath, M/39
S/o. Late Ragunath,
No.99, 2nd Floor, 4th Cross,
Iyappa Garden, Church Road,
Shanthi Nagar, Bangalore-560 027

NOTICE TO RESPONDENT

Please take notice that the above Crl. M.P. No. 48 of 2025 in M.C. No. 28 of 2016 is posted on **14.07.2026 at 10.00 a.m.** for your appearance and objections if any, failing which the above petition will be decided on merits.

N. DANALATCHOUMY
Advocate

India seeks clarity as 'tipping points' rock Bonn climate talks

At the Bonn climate talks, when India urged caution on how the term 'tipping point' is defined and used, the European Union said that amounted to 'misinformation'

Rishika Pardikar

At the Bonn climate talks in Germany on June 8-18, alongside the usual laundry list of contested themes such as climate finance, tipping points became an unexpected source of debate and controversy.

According to the Earth Negotiations Bulletin, India urged care and clarity in using terms like "tipping points", which it said would present challenges around defining the idea and cautioned against mis-communicating or oversimplifying the science.

However, the European Union muddied the waters by raising concerns about "coordinated misinformation" and "obstruction".

Scientists study the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation, a movement of warm and cold waters that stretches from around Greenland to beyond the tip of Africa and into the Indian Ocean. The risks that tipping points carry are significantly larger than routine climate-induced disasters. AP

Complexities, uncertainties

A climate tipping point is a threshold in the earth's climate system beyond which a part of it jumps into a new state.

Once such a tipping point has been crossed, changes can happen faster or harder to reverse on human timescales, even if the original cause of the change is removed.

For example, say warming in the Arctic melts enough sea ice to expose large areas of dark ocean. These waters could absorb more heat, causing more warming and even more melting. With enough heat, this cycle may be able to continue on its own, rendering recovery very difficult.

However, it is difficult to project tipping points in the climate because of complexities in the climate system and uncertainties in the input data.

Climate communicators also struggle with this concept: some see it as a catalyst for urgent action while others have argued that its inherent uncertainties undermine its value for policymaking.

In fact, climate-related drivers of directly experienced disasters, such as extreme rainfall or heatwaves, are sometimes seen as more effective for raising public awareness of climate change and the need for climate action than the relatively abstract concept of climate tipping points.

However, the risks that tipping points carry are significantly larger than routine climate-induced disasters, and thus raise larger questions about how people can adapt to the effects of a breached tipping point.

Multiple thresholds

Tipping points have non-linear behaviour. This means they don't increase at the same pace or intensity at which greenhouse gases accumulate in the environment. Instead, even small increases in temperature can trigger large, self-amplifying feedback loops.

Aside from warming in Arctic, potential climate tipping points include a 'dieback' of the Amazon rainforest (i.e. the risk of the forest reverting to being a savannah), the collapse of an ocean current called the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation (AMOC), the mass-bleaching of coral reefs, changes in the monsoons over India and West Africa, and the disintegration of the Greenland ice sheet.

While human societies will be better off not threatening any of the climate tipping points, there are also positive social tipping points in the climate space – such as the adoption of renewable energy. Once these technologies win a critical adoption level, some experts have argued, they will be on track to large-scale adoption.

Contesting tipping points

That said, many experts have also said tipping points raise more questions than provide answers.

Scientists also still struggle to project when the AMOC will collapse or when the Amazon rainforest will transition into a savannah ecosystem.

One reason is that scientists have to work with projected emissions and temperature ranges in future and, based on that, they have returned with indications that certain climate systems will change slowly rather than suddenly to new states.

For example, one *Science Advances* paper in April noted that AMOC could slow down by 51%, rather than altogether collapse, by 2100 in a medium-emissions scenario.

This conclusion also depends on the model context because it is not a direct forecast: the paper only aimed to identify which model projections were more credible than others. In other words, uncertainties are implicit in the data and cannot be removed using more data alone.

In fact, research suggests that scientists may be able to identify fixed tipping points clearly only in *post facto* analysis from a historical lens. Meaning, in hindsight.

And in the case of complex ecosystems like the Amazon rainforest, whose fate is closely tied to millions of tribal and urban community members and numerous artisanal enterprises, a projection of

Many scientists and science communicators agree that clearly communicating scientific uncertainty is a good thing because it builds trust

tipping points based only on changes in the climate would miss influences due to, say, cattle-ranching and human deforestation – and underestimate the implications of a change to a savannah.

That said, some scientists have also contested whether tipping points will be abrupt. For example, ice sheets deplete over thousands of years – which is far from abrupt for human observers.

A faux threshold

There is a popular notion that the earth's surface warming beyond 1.5 degree Celsius is a tipping point. The confusion persists even among participants in climate negotiations, research published in 2019 found.

However, negotiators adopted this number as well as 2 degrees Celsius at the COP21 climate talks in 2015 as a political target based on scientific evidence that warming beyond 1 degrees Celsius, 1.5 degrees Celsius or 2 degrees Celsius will increasingly disrupt the climate. The temperature goals are not tipping points in and of themselves.

At the Bonn climate talks, when India urged caution on how the term 'tipping point' is defined and used, the European Union said that amounted to "misinformation".

Specifically, India argued that the term 'tipping point' entails "definitional challenges". This much has been acknowledged in independent scientific research and in state-led efforts. For instance, the U.K.'s national meteorological office is working on a project titled 'An Up-HILL Battle: Building consensus on terminology for high impact climate events and tipping point risks'.

According to a project document: "Unclear and inconsistent terminology for high impact climate phenomena, including concepts such as tipping points, irreversibility, 'collapse' and 'shutdown', presents a substantial barrier to clear understanding of Earth system risks."

Way from here

Many scientists and science communicators agree that clearly communicating scientific uncertainty is a good thing because it builds trust.

Both false alarm and a false sense of hope can affect credibility when, say, a projection or a forecast doesn't come to pass. The risk – rather than the certainty – implicit in tipping points is also significant enough to warrant climate action.

In one 2025 article in *Nature Climate Change*, researchers from Canada, Switzerland, the U.K., and the U.S. criticised the 'tipping points' framework for "oversimplifying the diverse dynamics of complex natural and human systems and for conveying urgency without fostering a meaningful basis for climate action."

They also called for more clarity, especially on the degree of abruptness, the reversibility of changes, and feedback-driven self-amplification.

"Climate change is already causing demonstrable and obvious harm around the world," the researchers wrote. In tipping point discourse, on the other hand, "there is no specific increment of temperature increase that science can identify as the boundary between our current, already-dangerous climate and a future catastrophic climate, and no justification for doomism and paralysis while the world continues to warm."

(Rishika Pardikar is a freelance journalist. rishika.s.pardikar@gmail.com)

THE GIST

At the Bonn climate talks in Germany on June 8-18, tipping points became an unexpected source of debate and controversy

India urged care and clarity in using terms like "tipping points", which it said would present challenges around defining the idea and cautioned against mis-communicating or oversimplifying the science

It is difficult to project tipping points in the climate because of complexities in the climate system and uncertainties in the input data

BIG SHOT

Women miners wearing plastic bags over their clothing, to protect themselves while searching for gold particles at an artisanal mining site in Mongbwalu, Ituri Province, on June 16. The latest Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, has mainly affected Ituri, with health officials struggling to enforce containment measures. AFP

WHAT IS IT?

Rescuing a space telescope

Agence France Presse

On June 30, NASA launched a daring robotic rescue mission — a long shot to prevent one of its ageing telescopes from vanishing into dust. The $30-million operation is set to last several months, kicking off with the launch of a robot designed to rescue the Swift space telescope, which is currently falling towards the earth.

At the time of writing, the rescue spacecraft developed by the U.S. startup Katalyst was slated to lift off on June 30 at 10:23 GMT from a Pacific Ocean atoll aboard a small rocket named Pegasus.

"Everything about this mission is so crazy," said NASA astrophysicist Regina Caputo. She projected the chances of success at "maybe 50-50."

After it reaches an orbit near that of the telescope, the robot must locate Swift, manoeuvre around it, and latch on with three 'arms'. It will then try to tow Swift into a stable orbit over at least a month.

NASA launched the Neil Gehrels Swift Observatory in 2004, originally for a two-year mission to study gamma-ray bursts. Ms. Caputo likened these bursts to a supercharged version of a supernova,

An artist's redition of the Swift spacecraft observing a gamma-ray burst. FILE

which is the explosive death of a star.

Swift was placed at a roughly 600-km-high low earth orbit so it could remain in touch with researchers. At such an altitude, the device without its own propulsion would eventually drift closer to the earth and burn up in the atmosphere.

For feedback and suggestions
for 'Science', please write to **science@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Daily page'

WEDNESDAY
July 1, 2026

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INDIA'S NATIONAL NEWSPAPER SINCE 1878

Vol. 57 • No. 155

RNI No. KARENG/1970/49945

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ਮਾਣਾਂ ਧੀਆਂ
ਸਤਿਕਾਰ ਯੋਜਨਾ

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every month for every
woman in Punjab

₹1,500
every month for women
belonging to the SC category

Department of Information and Public Relations, Punjab

1092/18/2026-27/12830

Court warns against witness tampering in Darshan case

Tampering would be viewed seriously and dealt with strictly in accordance with law, the court says

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The 58 Additional City Civil and Sessions Court on Tuesday issued a strong warning against any attempt to influence witnesses during the trial in the high-profile murder case involving actor Darshan.

During the day's proceedings, prosecution witness number 17 (PW-17) was examined.

Actor Darshan FILE PHOTO

Witness contacted

After taking oath, the witness informed the court that unknown persons had allegedly contacted him through an acquaintance named Akarsh, seeking information about his testimony and asking him to depose in a particular manner.

Taking serious note of the allegation, the court directed the witness to file a separate affidavit detailing the alleged attempt to influence him.

After taking oath, the witness informed the court that unknown persons had allegedly contacted him

Legal action

The judge observed that if the affidavit is filed, appropriate legal action would be initiated against those responsible.

The court further cautioned that any attempt to tamper with witnesses, whether by persons connected or unconnected to the case, would be viewed seriously and dealt with strictly in accordance with law. The Investigating Officer was directed to provide necessary protection to the witness throughout his testimony.

As the court ran out of time, the further chief examination of PW-17 was deferred.

The matter has been posted to Wednesday for further evidence.

Special team to survey buildings in Chickpet, action planned against illegal structures

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

M. Maheswar Rao FILE PHOTO

The Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA) has decided to conduct a comprehensive survey of all buildings in the Chickpet Division, with a special team of town planners to be constituted to identify unauthorised constructions and initiate legal action. Chairing a meeting on Tuesday, GBA Chief Commissioner M. Maheshwar Rao directed officials to undertake the survey and issue notices to owners of buildings found to be in violation of building regulations. He instructed them to take appropriate action against unauthorised structures in accordance with the law.

In view of the fire risks in areas such as Chickpet, Mr. Rao ordered an immediate fire safety audit that will assess the availability and condition of firefighting systems, emergency exits and overall emergency preparedness to improve public safety.

This comes in the backdrop of a fire accident that gutted over 30 shops in a complex near the Chickpet Metro Station in February earlier this year.

Suspected gas leak triggers fire in flat

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

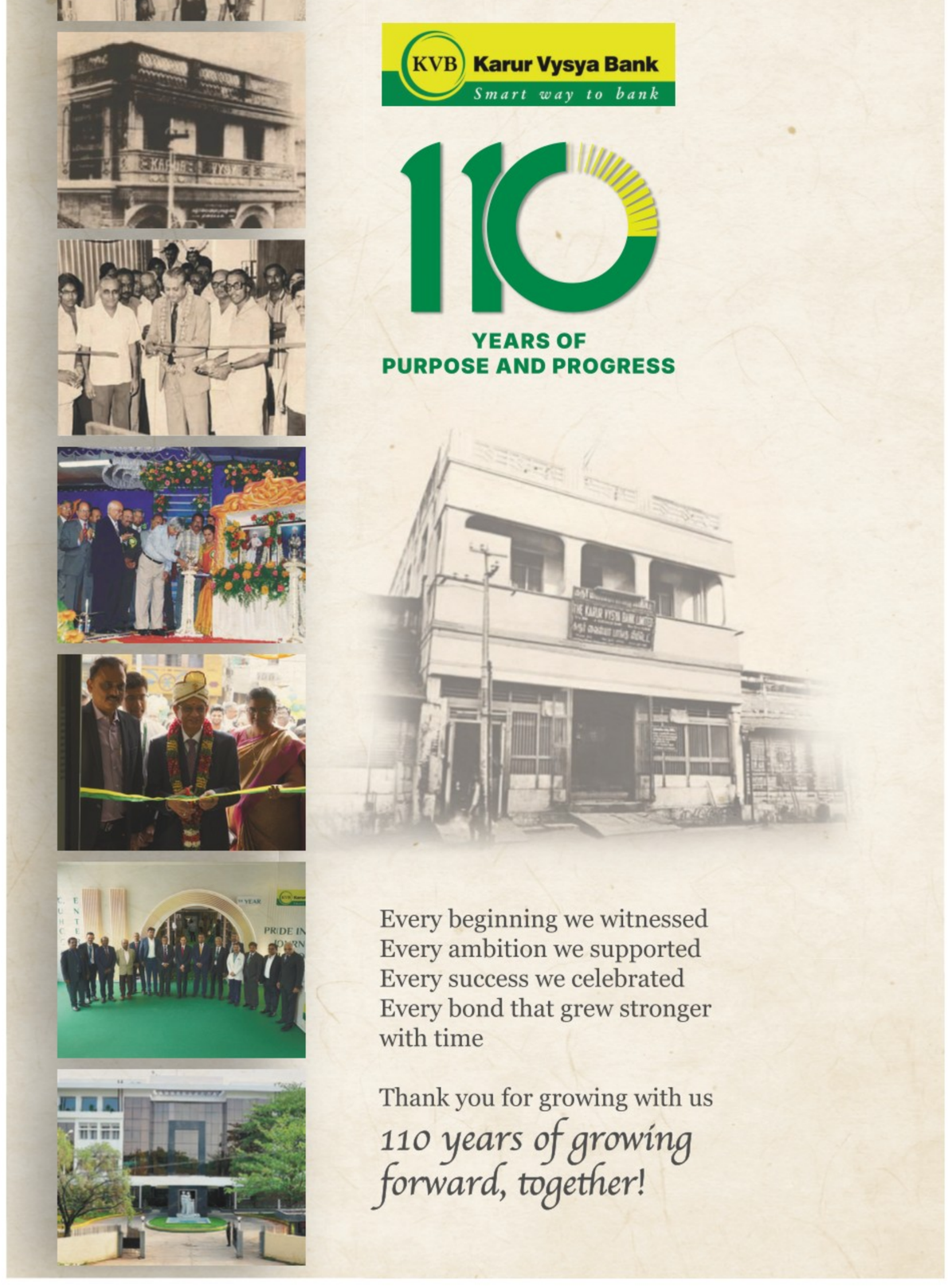
A suspected gas leak triggered a fire at an apartment complex in central Bengaluru on Tuesday afternoon. No casualties or injuries were reported as the occupants managed to escape safely before the blaze spread.

According to Fire and Emergency Services officials, an alert about the fire at a G+3 apartment building near Garuda Mall was received at 3.23 p.m.

Preliminary investigation revealed that the fire broke out in a top-floor apartment occupied by a family of four. Officials suspect that a gas leak occurred while cooking was under way, causing the LPG pipe to catch fire before the flames spread to the gas cylinder.

The family members managed to escape the flat safely, and no injuries were reported. Firefighters extinguished the blaze and prevented it from spreading.

A detailed investigation has been initiated to ascertain whether the blaze was caused by a gas leak or any other reason. The flat was partially damaged due to the fire, causing panic among the other occupants.



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SRINGERI JAGADGURU VISITS VISHWA VIDYAPEETH ON THE OCCASION OF GURUKRUPA MAHOTSAVA

A sacred and historic moment, one that will be remembered and recorded in the history of Vishwa Vidyapeeth, was witnessed on 30 June 2026. His Holiness Jagadguru Sri Sri Vidhushekhara Bharati Sannidhanam of the Sringeri Sri Sharada Peetham visited Vishwa Vidyapeeth and blessed the students, teachers, parents, and devotees with his divine presence, guidance, and blessings. This special occasion was celebrated with great devotion under the title "Gurukrupa Mahotsava."

The institution welcomed His Holiness with traditional grandeur amidst Vedic chanting, Purna Kumbha honours, floral tributes, and a beautifully decorated campus reflecting the richness of India's spiritual heritage. The atmosphere resonated with devotion and reverence as students, parents, alumni, and devotees gathered to seek the blessings of the Jagadguru.

The programme showcased the unique educational vision of Vishwa Vidyapeeth through Vedic recitations, devotional presentations, and innovative academic and scientific exhibits by the students. His Holiness appreciated Vishwa Vidyapeeth's efforts in harmoniously integrating ancient Indian wisdom with contemporary education, thereby nurturing intellectually competent and culturally rooted global citizens.

A significant highlight of the event was the felicitation of students who have brought laurels to the institution through exceptional achievements in academics, sports, and various other fields. Receiving recognition and blessings directly from His Holiness was a rare honour and a deeply inspiring experience for the young achievers.

Addressing the gathering, the Jagadgurus delivered a profound message on the importance of values, discipline, service, patriotism, and Guru Bhakti in shaping future generations. He urged students to pursue excellence with humility, integrity, and a commitment to societal welfare.

The event also highlighted Vishwa Vidyapeeth's remarkable accomplishments at national and international levels and its unwavering commitment to holistic, value-based education. The divine blessings of His Holiness and the spirit of Gurukrupa infused the gathering with renewed purpose and inspiration. More than a ceremonial gathering, Gurukrupa Mahotsava was a profound confluence of spirituality, culture, and education. The sacred presence and blessings of His Holiness left an indelible impression on every heart, inspiring students to pursue knowledge with humility, purpose, and dedication.

The occasion stands as a shining milestone in the journey of Vishwa Vidyapeeth, reaffirming its commitment to nurturing future generations rooted in Indian values, enriched by wisdom, and empowered to contribute meaningfully to society and the nation.

Text&Context

THE HINDU

NEWS IN NUMBERS

MNREGA funds allegedly unpaid by the Union government

17 in ₹ crore. Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge on Tuesday alleged that the Narendra Modi government was not paying pending dues of ₹17,144 crore to the States and Union Territories towards MGNREGA wages. He also alleged that the government has imposed the VB-G RAM G scheme on States, increasing the financial burden on them by 40 per cent. PTI

Rise in wrong-side driving prosecutions in Delhi in 2026

98 in per cent. Prosecutions for wrong-side driving rose by 98 per cent, and challans for unauthorised parking went up by 36.5 per cent in Delhi in the first six months of 2026 compared with the corresponding period last year, according to official data. The police intensified enforcement after a push from Delhi Lieutenant Governor Taranjit Singh Sandhu. PTI

Bengal govt's package for development of tribal areas in the State

350 in ₹ crores. West Bengal Chief Minister Suvendu Adhikari on Tuesday said his government has asked the Tribal Development department to prepare a special package of ₹350 crore for developing Adivasi-dominated areas in the State, while accusing the previous Trinamool Congress dispensation of neglecting their welfare. PTI

Number of illegal water connections cut in Mumbai

2257 Maharashtra Cabinet Minister Uday Samant on Tuesday said that as many as 2,257 illegal water connections have been cut in Mumbai in the last six months, and more such actions will follow. The issue was raised by BJP MLC Rajhans Singh. These unauthorised connections were being used for construction activities. PTI

Deaths higher than expected during France heatwaves

300 French health officials said on Tuesday that there were at least 300 more deaths than expected during a five-day heatwave in May. Apart from the May heatwave, France experienced a record-breaking heatwave of 11 days earlier this month that scientists link to climate change. REUTERS

COMPILED BY THE HINDU DATA TEAM

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The fiscal tightrope for State govts.

Most State government expenditure is on social sectors, such as health and education, and economic sectors, such as agriculture and irrigation. In Kerala, such spending has driven social progress since the 1960s. The gap between expenditure and receipts is usually financed through market borrowings.

ECONOMIC NOTES

Jayan Jose Thomas

Kerala and Tamil Nadu are among the most socially and economically advanced States in India. Yet, the finances of both governments, like those of most other States, are under stress. The White Papers recently released by the two governments described their outstanding debt as alarming. State government debt is often vilified as the result of fiscal mismanagement. But it may, in fact, reflect a mismatch between development aspirations and the limited fiscal capacity of State governments.

The fiscal dilemma

Debts build up over the years with deficits, which arise when the government's expenditure overshoots its tax and other receipts. In India, while the power to raise taxes rests largely with the Union government, a larger share of overall government spending is borne by the State governments. A majority of the State government expenditure is on social sectors, such as health and education, and economic sectors, such as agriculture and irrigation, all of which have a direct impact on people's lives and livelihoods. In Kerala, the high levels of State government spending on social sectors since the 1960s have been a central constituent of the public action driving social progress. Compared with the corresponding average for all Indian States, per capita State government social expenditure was higher in Kerala and Tamil Nadu (by 30% and 20%, respectively). In contrast, it was markedly lower in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh (by 35% and 40%) (for the period 2020-23, according to an analysis based on State Finances: A Study of Budgets, Reserve Bank of India).

States meet their expenditures partly through their own revenues – which mainly include State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) and sales tax – and through fiscal transfers, grants, and loans from the Union government. Kerala has a sufficiently good record of mobilising own-tax revenues, which, on a per capita basis, are 1.5 times the average for all Indian States and Union Territories. However, its share in the Union government's tax devolution to States was 1.92%, lower than its 2.6% share of India's population in 2023-24.

The excess of expenditures over receipts has been met through market borrowings by the States, on which the States pay interest **(Charts 1 and 2)**.

Of the limited financial resources at its disposal, Kerala has been able to direct only 10% towards capital expenditure to enhance future production capabilities. The rest was spent on revenue, or day-to-day expenditure. Approximately a fifth of the State's budget expenditure was on the salaries of government employees, mainly teachers, nurses, doctors, and police personnel. Pensions accounted for 15.3%, while interest on market borrowings accounted for 16.5% of the total budget expenditure **(Chart 2)**.

The investment challenge faced by Kerala

Kerala is thus caught in a fiscal dilemma. If it tries to create more fiscal space by reducing revenue expenditures – cutting pensions, retrenching employees – it risks eroding its strengths in the social sector. At the same time, Kerala urgently requires large-scale, State-directed investments in infrastructure, higher education and research, and public transport, if it is to realise its potential in modern, knowledge-intensive economic sectors. Educated young people are leaving Kerala in large numbers because the State is unable to create educational and employment opportunities that meet their aspirations.

In Kerala, the government's weak fiscal capacity contrasts with unmistakable signs of private affluence (lavishly built houses, expensive cars, and a high density of gold shops), threatening to exacerbate inequalities.

The ratio of credit to deposits of scheduled commercial banks in Kerala is only around 66%, compared with the national average of 76% and ratios exceeding 100% in Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu (2023). The excess of bank deposits over bank credit is one indicator of the volume of unutilised savings in Kerala. Between 2016 and 2026, the State government's capital expenditure could have been at least doubled if Kerala had been able to channel at least part of its surplus savings into investment **(Charts 3 and 4)**.

The borrowing opportunity for China's local governments

In China, the bigger chunk of the massive investments that have boosted economic growth has been undertaken by provinces and lower-level local governments. Local governments borrow heavily to finance these investments, drawing on the large pool of domestic savings held by Chinese banks, while their efforts are coordinated through central government planning. China's local governments raise resources through the sale of local government bonds (LGBs), land sales, and off-budget borrowing via local government financing vehicles (LGFVs), supplementing fiscal transfers by the central government.

In India, not only have there been limits on borrowing by State governments, but the cost of their debt has also been markedly high. State governments pay interest of 6.5% to 7.5% on the securities they issue, known as State Development Loans (SDLs), to borrow from the market. This is 0.25 to 0.75 percentage points higher than the rate at which the Union government borrows and significantly more expensive than the cost of borrowing by Chinese local governments from their banking system (around 2%).

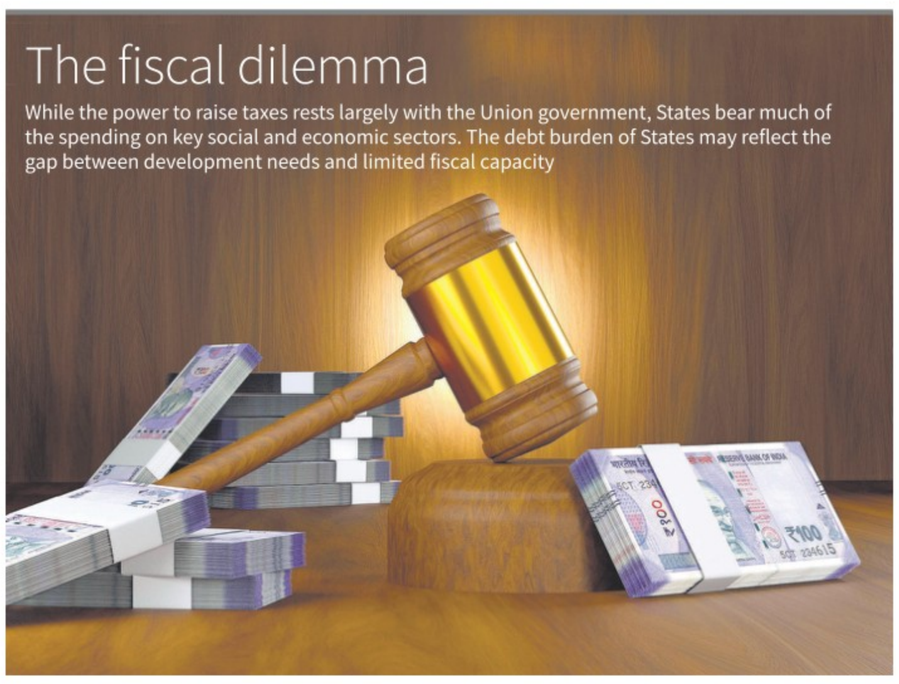
The high interest burden further tightens the debt noose around State governments.

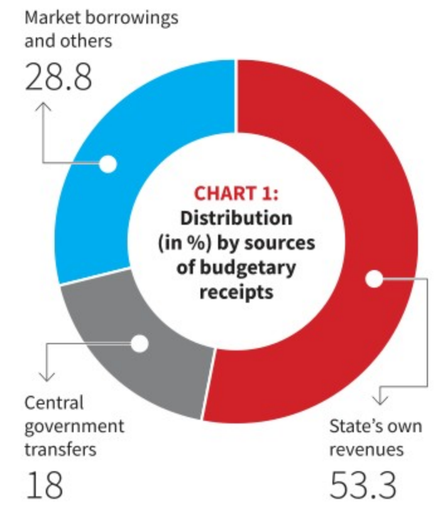
The State and Union government bonds issued in India are largely purchased by domestic financial institutions, including commercial banks and insurance companies, which deploy the savings they mobilise from the public to support government finances. In effect, the debt the government owes is a debt to its own people. A government that borrows to fund projects that expand welfare and opportunities is serving a far greater cause than a tight-fisted government.

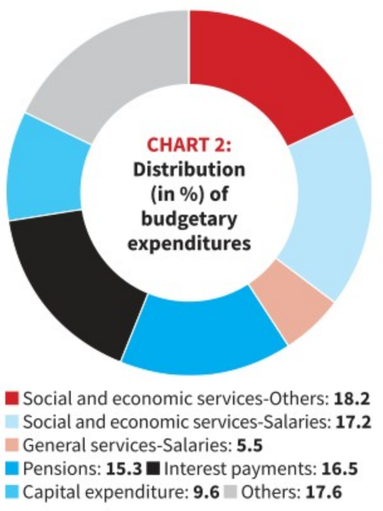
A family would prefer that its savings, rather than being wiped out to send their child to study in a distant land, be used to establish a public university in their district.

We need fiscal structures that enable State governments to access domestic savings more easily and at a lower cost to fund meticulously planned development projects.

(Jayan Jose Thomas is a Professor of Economics at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi and a visiting researcher at the South Asia Institute of the Heidelberg University.)







Note: Kerala's total budgetary receipts = total budgetary expenditures = ₹1,924.6 billion. That amount was 13.5% of Kerala's Gross State Domestic Product of ₹14,271.5 billion.

Source: *Revised Budget in Brief 2026-27, Finance Department, Government of Kerala*

CHART 3: Deposits mobilised in excess of credit disbursed in Kerala by scheduled commercial banks

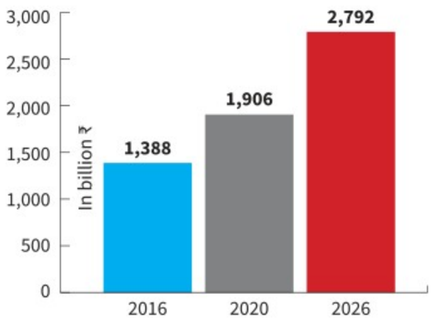
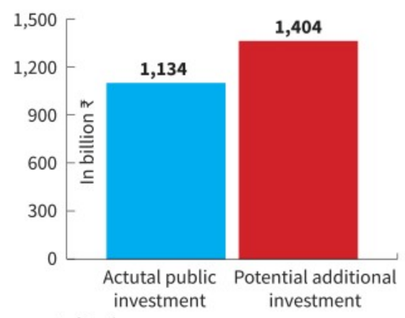


CHART 4: Actual investment and potential additional investment that could have been financed with bank deposits in excess of credit in Kerala, 2016-2026



Sources: *Economic Survey, Government of India; Budget documents, Government of Kerala*

THE GIST

State government debt builds up over the years when expenditure exceeds tax and other receipts. While the Union government raises most taxes, States bear a large share of public spending.

States meet their expenditures partly through their own revenues, including State Goods and Services Tax (SGST) and sales tax, and through fiscal transfers, grants, and loans from the Union government.

The excess of expenditures over receipts has been met through market borrowings by the States, on which the States pay interest.

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Special Intensive Revision: State likely to have 11 logical discrepancy categories

Political parties and rights groups argue that since all Phase III States are implementing the exercise, State is likely to follow the same framework

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

With the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) now under way in the State, Karnataka is likely to have 11 types of "logical discrepancy", if the same framework followed in other Phase III States is adopted. When the category was first introduced during the SIR in West Bengal, only four logical discrepancies were identified.

While Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) V. Anbu Kumar, addressing a press conference on Monday, said that "six categories of logical discrepancy have been identified", he maintained that whether they would be applied would only be decided once the draft electoral rolls are published on August 5.

He, however, said that "the categories may increase after the draft electoral rolls are out. The exact number will only be known after the draft electoral roll," he said.

However, as seen in other States that are part of the Phase III SIR, 11 categories have been identified. If different States, apply different categories under the same legal framework, it could create different grounds for 'rejection' under the same law, which is considered 'unlawful discrimination'. However, dismissing the apprehensions, the CEO said that "confusions should not be created in the first place about rejections."

Enumeration forms being distributed to families, as part of the Special Intensive Revision of the electoral roll, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Discrepancies

The categories include – less than a nine-month gap between progeny (siblings), less than a 15-year or more than a 50-year age gap between parent and progeny, less than a 40-year age gap between an elector and grandparent, different parent names between the current roll and the previous SIR, mapping with a different relative type between the current roll and the previous SIR (father/mother), mapping with the father in the current roll and the husband in the previous SIR, different father names in the current roll and the previous SIR, incorrect age difference between the current roll and the previous SIR, absence of any supporting document, and Aadhaar being the sole document submitted.

Similar categories have been identified and announced already in states undertaking the Phase III SIR, including Telangana and Haryana. Political parties and rights groups argue that since all Phase III States are implementing the exercise under the same Election Commission notification, Karnataka is likely to follow the same framework.

In Telangana, where house-to-house voter enumeration under the exercise began on June 25, as many as 89.88 lakh electors have already been flagged for anomalies in their data.

Marital status

One of the categories flags cases where a woman is linked to her husband in the current electoral roll but to her father in the previous SIR. This could affect lakhs of women who were unmarried during the 2002 SIR but are now married, as their records may be flagged for verification and they could receive notices.

The Election Commission's May 14 notification announcing the SIR also states that, after the draft electoral roll is published, Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) shall issue notices to electors whose records could not be linked to the previous revision or whose linkage reveals 'discrepancies.' This indicates that such verification through logical discrepancy is envisaged for all states covered under the Phase III SIR exercise.

"After publication of the draft electoral roll, the ERO shall issue notices to those persons who could not be linked or whose linkage with the electoral roll of the last revision reveals discrepancies. The ERO will publish lists of such persons to whom notices have been issued," the Election Commission stated.

Under these directions, notices can be issued to two categories of voters. The first are those whose current voter records could not be linked to the electoral roll from the last SIR (2002 in Karnataka), meaning officials were unable to trace a corresponding earlier record.

The second are those whose records could be linked, but where the linkage itself raised inconsistencies. In both cases, voters can be served notices and asked to explain the discrepancies or submit supporting documents before the final electoral roll is published.

Categories under logical discrepancy

- Less than nine months gap between progeny (siblings)
- Less than 15 years or more than 50 years age gap between progeny and parent
- Less than 40 years age gap between elector and grandparent
- Different parent name between current roll and previous SIR
- Mapping done with different relative type between current roll and previous SIR (father/mother)
- Mapped with the husband in the current roll and with the father in the previous SIR
- Different father names in current roll and last SIR
- Incorrect age difference between current and last SIR
- Absence of any kind of document — zero documents
- Aadhaar being the sole document
- More than six children linked to a person

From Page One

SIR: Over 12.48 lakh enumeration forms distributed on first day

The State has 5.54 crore electors as on June 16 and 91.61% of them have already been mapped for the house-to-house exercise, which will continue till July 29.

Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer V. Anbu Kumar told *The Hindu* that the figures represented the status as of 4 p.m. and were expected to improve significantly.

488 require further scrutiny

The commission's preliminary verification identified 488 electors requiring further scrutiny under the Absentee Shifted Death Duplicate and Others (ASDDO) category.

It recorded 291 deceased electors, 116 who had permanently shifted residences, 77 already enrolled elsewhere, two electors who could not be contacted during the visit, and two cases under other categories.

Highest in Hassan

Among the districts, Hassan reported the highest number of forms distributed at 1,46,025, followed by Davangere (1,07,802), Kalaburagi (79,375), Yadgir (78,280), Belagavi (75,052), and Tumakuru (66,304).

In the Greater Bengaluru Authority area, the North division distributed 23,221 forms, followed by Central (12,122) and South (10,620). Bengaluru Urban saw a distribution of 14,405 forms taking the total distribution in GBA to 60,368.

Electors can also submit their forms online or seek assistance through the 'Book a Call with BLO' feature on the ECINet application and the voters.eci.gov.in portal.

A special drive to speed up distribution and digitisation of forms has also been scheduled for July 4 and 5.

CM says citizens without voting rights may risk losing government benefits, urges them to take part in SIR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday urged eligible citizens to participate in the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) of electoral rolls, cautioning that those who do not retain their voting rights may find it difficult to access government welfare benefits in future.

Launching the SIR exercise by filling up his Enumeration Form at his Sadashivanagar residence, Mr. Shivakumar said some States had already begun linking welfare benefits to voter status and Karnataka could also move in that direction. "All citizens must safeguard their voting rights. If they do not, it could become difficult to receive government benefits. In some States, benefits are being extended only to eligible voters, while those without voting rights are being excluded. A similar system could emerge here as well," he said.

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar and his wife, Usha Shivakumar, filling in the enumeration forms, in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Some States already began linking welfare benefits to voter status, and Karnataka can also move in that direction, says CM

The Chief Minister said the State government's welfare schemes are intended for Karnataka residents. "Our guarantee schemes are meant for the people of Karnataka. Why should benefits meant for Karnataka be extended to people from other States? Our intention is that these benefits should reach only the people of this State," he said.

Mr. Shivakumar and his wife, Usha Shivakumar, completed the Enumeration Forms in the presence of the Bengaluru South Deputy Commissioner and election officials, formally launching the State-wide exercise.

He said the SIR process provided an opportunity for voters to update their personal details, including their registered mobile number, name and photograph. If a voter's mobile number had changed since obtaining the voter identity card, it could be updated during the process, after which the one-time password (OTP) would be sent to the revised number.

To simplify the exercise, the Chief Minister said one member of a household could fill up and sign the Enumeration Forms on behalf of the entire family.

Responding to concerns over digital literacy, he acknowledged that many people might not be comfortable using the online platform.

"I do not use the app myself and took the help of others. Those who are unable to use the online facility can obtain the physical form from the Booth Level Officer and submit it offline," he said.

'State govt. is trying to stall SIR by not appointing BLOs'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Opposition BJP has accused the Congress government of trying to stall the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) by creating obstacles in the appointment of Booth Level Officers (BLOs).

Addressing a press conference in Bengaluru, Leader of the Opposition R. Ashok alleged that the Congress government had intentionally desisted from appointing BLOs in many places to stall the SIR.

Fewer appointments

Citing an example in the city, he said the government had appointed only 10 BLOs as against the required 30 in a particular section.

Even those BLOs were complaining that the government had not provided allowances to them and had not granted permission yet to attend to their duty, he alleged.

"The purpose of SIR is to ensure that only genuine voters remain in the electoral rolls. But this process looks suspicious as in Jayanagar, non-officials and Congress leaders have been appointed as BLOs in 20 places. In Chamarajpet, BLOs are showing photos of Zameer Ahmed Khan, Congress MLA, during their visits to voters' houses, though they are not supposed to display any party symbols," he alleged.

Discrimination

Mr. Ashok expressed displeasure over what he described as discrimination in release of development grants for the Assembly constituencies in Bengaluru by Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar.

Timings
BENGALURU

	RISE	SET
WEDNESDAY, JUL. 01		
☀	05:57	18:50
☾	20:05	06:50
THURSDAY, JUL. 02		
☀	05:58	18:50
☾	20:48	07:43
FRIDAY, JUL. 03		
☀	05:58	18:50
☾	21:28	08:33

Bengaluru Weather	max	min
Tumakuru	34	15
Mysuru	31	20
Bengaluru	31	21

Bengaluru Today
30°C The weather will be slight warm. Spell of light rain and thundershower with gusty winds may occur. Night will be pleasant.

Bengaluru Tomorrow
29°C Morning will be pleasant. Day will be slight warm. Spell of moderate rain and thundershower will occur.

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THE HINDU
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Verification of Gruha Jyothi beneficiaries to begin today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Energy Department officials will begin the door-to-door verification process of all the Gruha Jyothi beneficiaries from Wednesday, according to a release.

The Gruha Jyothi scheme, which was launched in July 2023, is a flagship programme of the State government, which provides free electricity up to 200 units for residential households of Karnataka.

Keep documents ready

The release stated that Escoms meter readers and staff will visit the houses of consumers to check records and collect the information of beneficiaries.

This process will be completed on site using a mobile application and a declaration form. The department has asked all beneficiaries to keep the following documents ready, including Aadhaar Card (for verification only), passport size photo of the beneficiaries, voter ID card, PAN card, tenancy/rental agreements (wherever applicable), ration card and caste certificate.

Since an on-site check by the meter reader is the only way to complete this verification process, the department has requested all consumers and beneficiaries to extend their full cooperation to the visiting staff to ensure a smooth and quick update.

The drive will be commenced in the jurisdiction of all five Escoms, including Bescom, Mescom, Hescom, Gescom and CESC.

SIR: Kartavya app forces Booth Level Officers to report to office twice for attendance

Rishita Khanna
BENGALURU

While the Special Intensive Revision (SIR) has already begun in the State, government employees, particularly those from the Education Department besides others, who have been roped in as Booth Level Officers (BLOs), will still have to report to their workplaces to mark their attendance, as the AI-powered Kartavya app, officially known as the Karnataka Advanced Attendance Management System (KAAMS), requires employees to take a selfie to mark attendance strictly within a 100- to 150-metre radius of their designated workplace.

Even Karnataka Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) V. Anbu Kumar had written to the Chief Secretary in this regard. However, no response has been received even as the exercise has begun.

The Booth Level Officers visiting every household to distribute enumeration forms in Bengaluru on Tuesday. SUDHAKARA JAIN

Requesting all Heads of Departments to temporarily exempt staff deployed for the SIR from daily biometric attendance and attendance through the Kartavya Attendance App during the period of the exercise, the CEO, in a letter dated June 22, stated, "Their [BLOs'] attendance during the SIR be considered based on certificates issued by the Electoral Registration Officers (EROs) concerned, instead of daily biometric or app-based attendance."

A total of 59,050 BLOs have been trained and deployed across Karnataka for the exercise.

Explaining the challenges, a BLO from the Education Department said that the 'check-in' on the app has to be done from the workplace at 10 a.m., and the 'check-out' must also be done from the same location. "This means that we, who have been roped in as the BLOs, must first go to our workplace, even if our assigned polling area is elsewhere, then carry out the door-to-door enumeration, and finally return to the workplace to check out," the BLO said.

Starting academic year 2026-27, the government had mandated all government employees including teaching and non-teaching staff to register attendance twice a day on the app from the place where they are on duty. The BLOs said they should be relieved of one of the two responsibilities. Otherwise, they would either fail to meet their enumeration targets or lose attendance.

Only 1 GB data limit

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Booth Level Officers (BLOs), speaking to *The Hindu*, complained about poor network connectivity and the 1 GB daily mobile data limit allocated to them, stating that the field verification carried out as part of the exercise is "highly data-intensive". "We are required to upload scanned pages of Enumeration Forms (EFs), take high-resolution live photographs of electors, and coordinate real-time data synchronisation. The daily 1 GB data limit is inadequate and was not sufficient during the mapping phase alone, let alone enumeration phase, where the work is more," a BLO said.

Published by Nirmala Lakshman at No 19&21, Bhagwan Mahaveer Road, Bengaluru-560001 and Printed by C. Sridhar at Plot No. 13-D, Bommasandra-Jigani Link Road, KIADB Industrial Area, Bommasandra, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru-560099 on behalf of THG PUBLISHING PVT LTD., Chennai-600002. Editor: Suresh Nambath Chandrasekar (Responsible for selection of news under the PRP Act).
ISSN 0971 - 751X

KEYWORD

Papal encyclicals through eras of industrial and technological change

From addressing workers' rights in *Rerum Novarum* to the nuclear precipice in *Pacem in Terris* and the algorithmic frontiers of *Magnifica Humanitas*, modern papal encyclicals have drawn attention to key ethical questions in response to geopolitical, economic, and technological shifts

Faisal C.K.

A call to reflect: Pope Leo XIV signing his first Encyclical Letter *'Magnifica Humanitas'* in The Vatican. AFP

In October 1962, the world held its collective breath. For thirteen agonising days, the United States and the Soviet Union stood eyeball-to-eyeball, their fingers hovering over nuclear triggers. The Cuban Missile Crisis had brought humanity to the absolute precipice of thermonuclear annihilation. This was not merely a political standoff; it was the terrifying zenith of the Third Industrial Revolution—an era where human scientific genius and industrial mass production had successfully automated the mechanics of global extinction. Strategic Air Command was put on DEFCON 2, and millions of families watched their televisions in terror, wondering if the dawn would bring the end of civilisation.

It was against this apocalyptic backdrop, with the literal survival of the human race hanging in the balance, that an aging, ailing Pope John XXIII decided to intervene. Behind the scenes, the Pope acted as a critical diplomatic bridge, exchanging secret, urgent messages with both John F. Kennedy and Nikita Khrushchev, pleading for restraint. The crisis eventually receded, but the terrifying realisation of how close the world had come to self-destruction, permanently altered the course of papal history.

Just months later, in April 1963, while actively dying of stomach cancer, Pope John XXIII issued his final, most profound legacy to the world: the papal encyclical '*Pacem in Terris*' (Peace on Earth). Written in the raw, trembling wake of near-catastrophe, it was a radical document. For the first time in history, a Pope addressed an encyclical not just to the Catholic hierarchy, but to "all men of goodwill". It was a desperate, eloquent appeal to human reason, arguing that peace could not be built on a balance of terror or a mountain of industrialised weaponry, but only on the bedrock of mutual trust, human rights, and the moral law.

The anatomy of a Pontifical encyclical

This grand tradition of the Church stepping directly into historical fires did not begin—nor did it end—with the Cuban Missile Crisis. A papal encyclical (derived from the Greek *enkyklios*, meaning 'circular') is a formal pastoral letter sent by the Pope to guide the world through urgent geopolitical, economic, and technological upheavals.

The publication of Pope Leo XIV's landmark encyclical, *Magnifica Humanitas* (Magnificent Humanity), directly continues this prophetic lineage. It positions itself alongside historical, legal and moral landmarks like Pope Leo XIII's *Rerum Novarum* (1891) and Pope John XXIII's *Pacem in Terris* (1963). To understand its weight, one must unpack the distinct mechanisms of an encyclical: its historical background, its persuasive power (how it shapes global discourse), and its canonical validity (its authority under Catholic canon law).

The perils of the industrial revolutions

Encyclicals do not emerge in a vacuum; they are reactive, serving as a moral mirror to global revolutions. Far from being disconnected responses to separate crises, the social encyclicals of the Church form a continuous, 135-year theological lineage. Each document marks a socio-economic intervention at a different, compounding stage of the Industrial Revolution, where technological progress threatened to outpace human ethics.

Driven by the First and Second Industrial Revolutions (mechanisation and mass production), *Rerum Novarum* (1891) addressed the soot-choked reality of the working class. It defended workers' rights, unions, and the concept of a 'just wage' against unregulated capitalism and Marxist state socialism, asserting that human labour is not a mere commodity.

Forty years later, during the rise of massive financial cartels and corporate monopolies, Pope Pius XI introduced the principle of subsidiarity in the encyclical *Quadragesimo Anno* (1931). It argued that centralised powers—whether states or mega-corporations—must not strip local communities or individuals of their agency.

Pacem in Terris met the Third Industrial Revolution head-on, confronting the automated, systemic danger of nuclear weapons by advocating for interstate relations grounded in universal human rights rather than military might. In *Laborem Exercens* (1981) Pope John Paul II defended the "priority of labour over capital", as early computerisation and microprocessors began to automate factory floors. He asserted that machines and software are merely tools, and that the human being must always remain the active subject of work, never a passive object to be optimised.

Pope Benedict XVI warned in *Caritas in Veritate* (2009) against the "Technocratic Paradigm"—an ideological mindset where "what is technically possible becomes morally permissible", fracturing truth and genuine human relationships. Pope Francis in *Laudato Si'* (2015) expanded this critique by bridging digital ethics with environmental devastation, arguing that modern technological systems view both nature and human data as raw resources to be extracted and manipulated for profit.

The Nexus of Magnifica Humanitas

Issued on the 135th anniversary of *Rerum Novarum*, Pope Leo XIV's *Magnifica Humanitas* marks the latest structural shift in this lineage, explicitly targeting the Fourth Industrial Revolution data monopolies, and advanced artificial intelligence.

By confronting algorithmic bias, corporate data concentration, autonomous weapon systems, and the risk of viewing humanity as a dataset to be optimised, the text modernises the Church's ancient defence of human dignity for the digital era.

In Catholic Canon Law, the authority of an encyclical is highly nuanced. It falls under the category of the *Ordinary Magisterium* (the everyday teaching office of the Pope). An encyclical is generally not an exercise of papal infallibility. It does not usually decree immutable dogma. However, it is far more than a mere personal opinion; it is an official, authoritative document meant to guide the conscience of the universal Church. According to the Code of Canon Law, the faithful are required to give the Ordinary Magisterium a 'religious submission of intellect and will'. While it does not demand the absolute theological assent of defined dogma, it mandates respectful adherence and intellectual docility from Catholics.

The canonical validity of a new document like *Magnifica Humanitas* relies heavily on its seamless synthesis with prior texts. By pulling the principle of subsidiarity from *Quadragesimo Anno* to fight data monopolies, and the priority of labour from *Laborem Exercens* to critique AI deskilling, Pope Leo XIV ensures his arguments are an organic evolution of Church law rather than a sudden rupture.

If an encyclical's canonical validity binds the internal Catholic conscience, its persuasive power is what sways the secular world. The influence of the Papacy rests entirely on moral authority and philosophical persuasion. By utilising natural law methodology – the idea that certain moral truths regarding human dignity are discoverable through human reason alone – the text bypasses purely sectarian barriers to reach secular policymakers.

Rather than issuing a blanket, anti-technology condemnation, the encyclical adopts the posture of an "informed critic". This strategic nuance is exactly what draws tech leaders and global regulators into the conversation.

Babel vs. Jerusalem

Ultimately, this century-long line of papal encyclicals represents the Church's continuous effort to ensure that technological progress serves humanity rather than dominating it. Just as Pope John XXIII used the terrifying clarity of the Cuban Missile Crisis to demand a world ruled by moral order rather than nuclear fear, *Magnifica Humanitas* operates on the same dual front.

In *Magnifica Humanitas*, Pope Leo XIV captures this historical struggle through two vivid biblical images: humanity's choice between constructing the Tower of Babel or rebuilding Jerusalem. Babel represents the prideful, unbridled pursuit of technical power as an end in itself—a path that inevitably leads to the reduction of human beings into disposable datasets. Jerusalem represents a community structured around justice, relationship, and the absolute recognition of human dignity. As the gears of the Industrial Revolution continue to turn from steam to software, this papal lineage serves as a vital reminder: humanity's true magnificence lies not in the supreme power of its machines, but in its capacity for justice, conscience, and love.

(Faisal C.K. is Deputy Law Secretary to the Government of Kerala. Views are personal.)

FROM THE ARCHIVES

Know your English

S. Upendran

What is the origin of the word "bootleggers"? (V. Ramkumar, Chennai)

"Bootleggers', as you know, are people who brew and sell illicit liquor. The word was first coined in the United States in the mid-19th century. It gained popularity within America, however, when the country went through a "dry spell" (prohibition) between 1920-1933. People who were fond of hard drinks had to depend on 'bootleggers" to wet their palates.

Bootleggers brewed whiskey in the outskirts of towns and cities. As it was illegal to sell whiskey in the open market, the dealers had to find ingenious ways of bringing the bottles into towns and cities. One method they employed was to hide the bottles inside the tall boots they used to wear. Since they hid the bottles in their boots they began to be called "bootleggers"!

Nowadays, the word is being used in a very general sense. When you say that someone is bootlegging, it doesn't necessarily imply that he is making or selling illicit liquor. He could be making copies of videotapes and selling them illegally. Video piracy is a form of bootlegging. Here are a few examples:

Prakash was caught bootlegging Windows 2000 CDs.

Amrit bought a bootleg CD of last night's concert.

How is the word "alias" pronounced? (V. Kishore, Secunderabad)

The "a" in the first syllable is like the "ay" in "day", "hay", and "may'. The "i" is pronounced like the "i" in "sit", "bit", and "fit", while the following "a" sounds like the "a" in "China". The stress is on the first "a".

What is an alias? Your official name may be Kishore, but at home everyone may be calling you Ravi. Ravi is your alias. An alias is a name by which a person is also known. Sometimes, people give a false name deliberately; this can also be called an alias. Here are a few examples:

Ramanujam, alias Ravi, is arriving in Bangalore tomorrow.

The well-known criminal used several aliases.

Which of the following sentences is correct? "He left for America after a three-day state visit" or "He left for America after a three-days state visit". (Lenin, Chennai)

The first sentence is correct. You talk about a "three-day visit", 'two-week holiday', "five-month vacation", etc. You do not say three days visit, or five months vacation. In these examples, "three-day", "five-month", and "two-week" are functioning as adjectives. Here are a few more examples:

We are planning to go on the fourteen-day cruise next year.

Sailaja's four-page document was well written.

How is the word "vide" used? Can I say "The material was dispatched vide our invoice no...."? (Zatneer, Hyderabad)

"Vide" is a Latin word meaning "look at" or "refer to". Formal letters referring to an earlier correspondence always make use of this word.

Your sentence implies that you sent the material through the invoice. It is not possible to do that! You could however say, "We have dispatched the materials as per our agreement (vide letter dated....)".

Published in The Hindu on February 20, 2001

Word of the day

Affray

a noisy fight

Synonyms: altercation, ruffle, disturbance

Usage: The public affray disrupted traffic for nearly an hour.

Pronunciation: newsth.live/affray

International Phonetic Alphabet: /əˈfɹeɪ/

For feedback and suggestions for Text & Context, please write to **letters@thehindu.co.in** with the subject 'Text & Context'

THE DAILY QUIZ

Please send in your answers to dailyquiz@thehindu.co.in

Alferd Hitchcock once said, "In feature films the director is God; in documentary films God is the director". A quiz on documentaries

Joan Sony Cherian

QUESTION 1

An easy one. In 2008, this documentary, which follows the life of a young girl in rural Varanasi, won the Oscar. Name the documentary and its director.

QUESTION 2

Documentary film making became more mainstream in the 1930s and 1940s due to a movement in the U.K which wished to use films to educate the masses. What was the movement called? Who was it led by?

QUESTION 3

Triumph of the Will, Olympia and Victory of the Faith are documentaries directed by the same person. Name the film maker. Also, mention the other commonality that these films have.

QUESTION 4

This documentary won the National Film Award for Best Investigative Documentary in the 1990s. Last month, the director of the film alleged that his documentary was removed from YouTube for being "too violent". Name the film and the director.

QUESTION 5

Which was the first Indian documentary to be nominated for an Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature?

Visual question: This duo won the Best Documentary Feature at the 97th Academy Awards. Name them and the film.
REUTERS

Questions and answers to the previous day's daily quiz:

1.Einstein's Special Relativity paper was first published in this journal. **Ans: Annalen der Physik**

2. The original German title of Einstein's 1905 paper on Special Relativity. **Ans: Zur Elektrodynamik bewegter Körper (On the Electrodynamics of Moving Bodies)**

3. According to Special Relativity, this physical quantity remains invariant for all inertial observers. **Ans: The speed of light in vacuum (c)**

4. This paradox describes a travelling twin returning younger than the twin who remained on Earth. **Ans: The Twin Paradox.**

5. This 1905 paper was published after his Special Relativity paper and is often regarded as completing the "miracle year". **Ans: Does the Inertia of a Body Depend Upon Its Energy Content? (introducing mass-energy equivalence)**

Visual: This interferometer was used in a landmark 1887 experiment which paved the way for Einstein's Special Theory of Relativity. **Ans: The Michelson-Morley experiment**

Early birds: K.N. Viswanathan| Sukdev Shet| Bhavya Pandey| Prem Nath Tiwari

City remains India's GCC capital as maturing market cools rental growth

The ranking, developed by IIM Bangalore and CRE Matrix, also documents how Bengaluru is one of the strongest markets, where GCC occupiers are willing to pay above-market rents

Shilpa Elizabeth
BENGALURU

As Bengaluru continues to be India's largest Global Capability Centre (GCC) market, a new ranking of cities based on the Commercial Property Rental Index (CPRI) for GCCs has shown that the city's GCC index, as of the first quarter calendar year 2026, recorded a compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 1.6% over the past three years.

This means that Bengaluru, home to the largest number of GCCs in India, can expect a slow increase in GCC office rents in the days to come, due to the large supply of Grade A/A+ buildings in the city.

The data has been published as part of the Global Capability Centre Commercial Property Rental Index by IIM Bangalore and CRE Matrix.

Global Capability Centre capital

Highlights of report

Bengaluru remains India's largest GCC market by stock	GCC CPRI for Bengaluru as of Q1 CY'26 - 190	GCC CPRI for Pan-India - 165.3	Strongest macro market in Bengaluru - ORR	Most consistent macro market in Bengaluru - Whitefield

Top GCC macro markets in Bengaluru

	GCC CPRI	Three-Year CAGR
Whitefield	286.9	18%
South Bengaluru	257.9	12.2%
North Bengaluru	225.7	5.5%
Outer Ring Road	203.8	2.2%
CBD Bengaluru	160.2	-6.5%
East Bengaluru	151.6	12.6%
Off-CBD Bengaluru	133.8	-7%
North West Bengaluru	61	-13.8%

Source: Global Capability Centre Commercial Property Rental Index - Q1 CY'26

A problem of plenty

CPRI, developed by IIM Bangalore and CRE Matrix in 2024, is India's first scientific model-based commercial rental index for the Indian office market. The new GCC-CPRI ranking isolates the rental behaviour of GCCs from the broader market and creates a first-of-a-kind commercial rental index for the GCC office market in India. According to the report, Bengaluru demonstrates steady, resilient growth, while Pune and Hyderabad are the strongest GCC markets currently.

Hyderabad topper

In the ranking, Bengaluru came third with a CPRI score of 190. Hyderabad emerged as the topper with a CPRI of 212.1 and Pune emerged second. While Bengaluru witnessed a year-on-year decline of 2.7%, Hyderabad witnessed a 5.4% year-on-year growth.

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Venkatesh Panchapagesan, professor of finance and chairperson, Real Estate Research Initiative, IIM Bangalore, explained that Bengaluru has a problem of plenty, resulting in slow growth of rents.

"As the supply increases, which is the problem with mature markets like Bengaluru, there are a lot of options available. There are enough options, which makes it very hard for price growth to rapidly happen. In smaller markets, where the supply is short and demand is high, prices will quickly go up," he explained.

Macro markets

Abhishek Kiran Gupta, co-founder and CEO, CRE Matrix, added that while macro markets such as ORR and Whitefield may see better growth, at an overall level Bengaluru will remain subdued, as people now have more options, including in other cities. Currently, around one-third of the grade A/A+ stock in India is in Bengaluru, which experts view as the most mature market in India from a leasing perspective.

Outer Ring Road (ORR) emerged as the strongest macro-market within Bengaluru, recording 82% GCC leasing in Q1 CY '26. Whitefield was documented as the most consistent, with 18% three-year CAGR.

Premium rents

The ranking also documents how Bengaluru is one of the markets where GCC occupiers pay above-market rents.

"Bengaluru continues to be very attractive, and the GCC demand is so high relative to non-GCC demand that people are willing to pay a premium. The premium is a difference in rentals between GCC buildings and non-GCC buildings, both of grade A/A+ category," explained Mr. Panchapagesan.

"Bengaluru recorded a +50% market rent premium in Q1 CY '26, the highest in the quarter. However, this has not been the case in other quarters. On the other hand, Hyderabad has consistently maintained a 15% premium over several quarters," he added.

VTU creates history by announcing results just five minutes after the exam

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A view of Visvesvaraya Technological University. FILE PHOTO

Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) has created a new record by announcing the results of the sixth semester engineering exam just five minutes after the exam ended.

The results were jointly released by VTU Vice-Chancellor S. Vidyashankar and Registrar (Evaluation) U.J. Ujwal.

A total of 60,856 students appeared for the BE and BTech sixth semester exams. The exam concluded at 5.30 p.m. on Tuesday, and the results were announced at 5.35 p.m. Compared to previous years, the entire evaluation process was completed 21 days earlier. A total of 76.84% results have been recorded.

Recently, the results of 56,000 final-year students were announced within 10 minutes of exam completion.

In 2025, results of 50,321 students were announced within an hour.

For the sixth semester, in 2024-25, results of 58,232 students were announced within 10 days of exam completion.

Mr. Vidyashankar said, "Students wait eagerly for their results. Hence, we decided to announce them as quickly as possible. With proper preparation, we released the results immediately."

Mr. Ujwal said, "We adopted digital evaluation and prepared well to announce results quickly."

3 held for illegally storing crude country bombs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The Ankola police in Uttara Kannada district have arrested three persons for allegedly illegally possessing and storing crude country-made bombs, which they claimed were meant for catching fish.

According to the police, Inspector Chandrashekhar Mathapati and his team were on patrol near Hattikeri in Ankola on Tuesday when they received credible information that two residents of Honnalli village, Narayan Gowda and Nagaraj Gowda, had illegally stored crude country bombs.

Questioning

The police, along with the Anti-Sabotage Check (ASC) team, the Bomb Detection and Disposal Squad (BDDS), and panch witnesses, searched the accused's premises. During questioning, Narayan and Nagaraj allegedly admitted that they had kept the crude bombs to catch fish. They further told investigators that after one of their relatives was killed in an accidental explosion in Tumakuru a few days ago, they hid the explosives in a nearby forest.

Based on their disclosure, the police recovered three crude country bombs from the forest.

The explosives were seized and safely transported for secure storage and disposal.

During the investigation, the accused allegedly revealed that the explosives had been supplied by Sandeep Gowda of Shiragunji village in Ankola taluk.

A case has been registered at Ankola Police Station under Sections 4 and 5 of the Explosive Substances Act, 1908, and Section 288 of BNS, 2023.

The police have arrested Narayan, Nagaraj and Sandeep. Further investigation is under way.

K-tech
STARTUP KARNATAKA

HIRING OF MANPOWER RESOURCES

Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS), under the Department of Electronics, IT & BT, Government of Karnataka, serves as the nodal agency for implementing the Department's policies and spearheading innovation and technology initiatives in the State.

I. LEAP

Local Economy Accelerator Program (LEAP) is a Rs.1,000 crore, 5-year initiative launched by the Government of Karnataka to supercharge regional entrepreneurship, decentralize innovation, and amplify growth across the state's emerging tech clusters. **KITS invites applications from qualified and eligible candidates for the following contractual positions under the LEAP Programme for a maximum period of 11 months:**

Sl. No.	Designation/No. of Post/ Remuneration & Age Limit	Qualifications & Experience
1	**Project Manager** No. of Post: 1 Rs.80,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 40 Years	• Master's Degree (MBA/PGDM) or equivalent in Business Management, Public Policy, Finance or a related field from a recognized university. • A minimum of **5 years** of post-qualification experience in project management, startup ecosystem development, or venture capital is required. • Experience working with government projects, strong leadership skills. • Proficiency in Kannada is mandatory.
2	**Assistant Manager** No. of Post: 1 Rs.45,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 35 Years	• Master's Degree (MBA/PGDM) or equivalent in a relevant field OR a Bachelor's Degree (B.E/B.Tech, BBA, B.Com, BA, etc.) from a recognized university. • A minimum of **3 years** of post-qualification experience in program coordination, data analysis, or a related field. • Experience in the technology or startup sector or handling projects in Government sector, excellent communication skills, and proficiency in MS Office Suite. • Proficiency in Kannada is mandatory.
3	**Program Officer** No. of Post: 1 Rs.40,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 35 Years	• Bachelor's Degree in any discipline (e.g., B.E/B.Tech, BBA, B.Com, BA, etc.) from a recognized university. • A minimum of **2 years** of post-qualification experience in a coordination or administrative role. • Familiarity with government procedures, strong organizational skills, and willingness to travel extensively. • Proficiency in Kannada is mandatory.
4	**Project Executive-IT** No. of Post: 1 Rs.45,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 35 Years	• Master's/Bachelor's Degree in Computer Science, Information Technology (M.Tech, MCA, B.E/B.Tech/BCA) or a related field. • Minimum experience of **4 years** and preferably 1 year in any Govt. Organization. • Knowledge of DBMS (Mongo DB, AWS, Django etc.). • Knowledge on platforms such as WordPress, JavaScript, TypeScript, Python, React, PHP, CSS, HTML, Node.js etc. • Knowledge on E-tender and call for proposals.
5	**Project Executive-Marketing** No. of Post: 1 Rs.45,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 35 Years	• MBA in Marketing or a Bachelor's Degree in Marketing, Communications, or Business Administration (BBA/BBM). • A minimum of **3 years** of experience in marketing, communications, or public relations, preferably with a focus on program or event marketing.

II. Karnataka Startup Cell

KITS further invites applications for the following contractual positions to support implementation of various schemes under the Karnataka Start-up Policy 2025-30 to assist the Karnataka Start-up Cell for a maximum period of 11 months:

Sl. No.	Designation & Salary	Qualifications &Experience
1	**Manager – Marketing & Outreach** No. of Post: 1 Rs.80,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 40 Years	• Full-time MBA/PGDM/PGDBA (2 years duration) with specialization in Marketing. • Minimum **5 years** of professional work experience in marketing, branding, communications or outreach programs for Startup Cell programs, preferably with exposure to the startup ecosystem. Excellent Communication skills (Both Kannada and English).
2	**Manager – Funding & Program/ IT** No. of Post: 1 Rs.80,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 40 Years	• Full-time MBA/PGDBM/PGDBA (2 years duration). • Minimum **5 years** of professional work experience in funding programs with good analytical skills and strong hold on Data handling and Management and knowledge in Start-up ecosystem. Excellent Communication skills (Both Kannada and English).
3	**Project Executive** No. of Post: 3 Rs.45,000/- per month (Consolidated) Age Limit: Below 35 Years	• Bachelor's Degree in any discipline (e.g., B.E/B.Tech, BBA, B.Com, BA, etc.) from a recognized university. • Minimum **2 years** of relevant experience, preferably in Incubators/ Accelerators/ Start-up ecosystem with excellent communication skills, Strong organizational abilities, Problem-solving aptitude. Knowledge about IT, Reading & Writing ability (Both Kannada and English)

NOTE: TO APPLY FOR ALL THE ABOVE POSTS AND TO ACCESS DETAILED JOB PROFILES, VISIT THE DEPARTMENT WEBSITE: **https://eitbt.karnataka.gov.in/217/recruitment/en**

The deadline for submission of application is up to 15/07/2026, 5:00 PM.

SCAN TO APPLY

DIPR/CP/1404/AKAR/2026-27

Sd/-
Managing Director
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DOCTORS' DAY

AN ADVERTISERS' FEATURE

Healing the Healers of Tomorrow

Behind every young doctor is a support system, a changing profession and an unwavering commitment to keep learning and healing.

Who heals the healers?

It's the question at the heart of this year's Doctor's Day theme, Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers? The answer, perhaps, isn't found inside a hospital ward or an operation theatre. Sometimes, it lies in a late-night phone call with a friend who has survived the same postings, a parent who reminds you why you started, a roommate who knows how to take the edge off, or the quiet decision to dance, sing or simply rest without guilt.

For 25-year-old Anusha Priyadarshini, who has completed her MBBS and is preparing for the highly competitive NEET PG examination, learning to become a doctor has also meant learning not to lose herself in the process.

"In medicine, you're constantly learning how to take care of other people," she says. "Somewhere along the way, taking care of yourself becomes secondary. I'm trying not to let that happen."

For a generation of doctors entering a healthcare system that is rapidly changing, medicine isn't just about textbooks and clinical postings anymore.

It's about navigating informed patients, overwhelming competition, commercialised healthcare and the pressure of always having to know the answer.

Patients today arrive with Google searches, Instagram reels and increasingly, ChatGPT conversations. While Anusha welcomes patients wanting to understand their health better, she believes the internet has also changed the nature of trust.

"Sometimes it feels like patients are testing us," she says. "They've already read something online, and they're expecting you to either confirm it or explain why it's wrong."

Artificial intelligence, she adds, can be a useful starting point, but not a substitute for medical judgement. "ChatGPT can tell people what they want to hear. It can also be wrong.

I actually think older doctors should start using it–not because it has all the answers, but because it helps you understand the kind of questions patients are coming in with."

But if patients are changing, so are the doctors.

Anusha believes her generation is slowly moving away from older ideas of what defines a successful medical career. "For the longest time, people believed that 'real' doctors were surgeons or specialists who were constantly in the OT. Now we're seeing more people explore fields like family medicine and geriatrics. The idea of a doctor itself is expanding."

What hasn't changed, however, is the intensity of the journey. If anything, she feels it has become harder.

With lakhs of aspirants competing for a limited number of postgraduate seats every year, preparing for NEET PG can feel like a test of endurance as much as knowledge. Add long working hours, rising living costs and the corporatisation of healthcare, and it's easy for young doctors to wonder whether they're doing enough—or whether the profession will eventually give back what it demands.

Yet, despite the uncertainty, there are moments that keep them going.

"The satisfaction of treating a patient is immense," she says. "It makes you want to learn more." That, she believes, is what defines a good doctor, not pretending to know everything, but committing to learning for life. She hopes to follow up with patients more closely, remain curious, and most importantly, have the humility to admit when she doesn't know something.

"The phrase in our oath, 'Do no harm,' says a lot," she reflects. "Sometimes that means accepting that you don't have all the answers." And when she needs healing herself? The answer comes quickly.

"My batchmates understand this life in a way very few people can. My parents and my sister have carried me through some of my hardest moments. My friends, my roommates... they've all become part of my support system."

Behind every young doctor, there is often a circle of people quietly helping them carry the weight of becoming one. Perhaps that's the answer to this year's question after all. Healers are healed not by extraordinary moments, but by ordinary acts of love, trust and understanding: the very things they hope to offer their patients one day.

Siddhi Nawar

Sparsh Hospital

A nine-month-old baby suffering from severe hydrocephalus - a condition caused by an abnormal build-up of fluid in the brain, leading to an enlarged head, has received a renewed chance at life after undergoing complex high-risk brain surgery at SPARSH Hospital, Hennur Road.

Born with an abnormally enlarged head, the child's condition worsened over time. Her head circumference grew to just under 100 cm, making it extremely difficult for her to sit, turn, move freely or take part in age-appropriate physical activities. Despite these challenges, she remained alert, responsive and interactive, responding to voices, touch and care.

As the size and weight of her head increased, her movement became so severely restricted that she developed pressure sores on the skin of her scalp due to her inability to maintain adequate head movements. It became clear that she required urgent and specialised brain surgery.

Following a series of circumstances, the child came under the care of an orphanage, which subsequently sought specialized medical intervention. The surgery required was highly complex, carried significant clinical risks and involved substantial medical expenses.

After detailed evaluation and careful planning, a multidisciplinary team at SPARSH Hospital, Hennur Road, took up the case. Given the child's young age, the severity of hydrocephalus and the risks involved, the procedure required close coordination, precision and continuous monitoring.

The objective was not only to treat the medical condition, but to give the child a genuine opportunity for alleviate pain, comfort, improved movement and a stronger chance of achieving developmental milestones. Understanding the financial constraints involved, every effort was made to ensure that cost did not become a barrier to her treatment.

Speaking about the case, Dr. Ann Agnes Mathew, Senior Consultant - Paediatric Neurology, SPARSH Hospital, Hennur Road, said, "The baby's condition had progressed to a stage where surgery was the only viable treatment option, despite the inherent risks. The high-risk nature of the procedure required careful planning and precision. Our goal was not only to treat the medical condition but to give her the opportunity for a healthier future and better quality of life."

The surgery was successfully completed, marking the beginning of a new chapter in the baby's life. Doctors said continued follow-up, rehabilitation and supportive care will be important in helping her recover and progress further.

Speaking on SPARSH Hospital Hennur's readiness to manage complex cases, Col. Rahul Tewari, Cluster COO, SPARSH Hospital, Hennur Road, said, "Cases like this reflect the clinical depth, preparedness, and multidisciplinary strength that define SPARSH Hospitals. Our focus is to provide advanced and compassionate care for patients with complex medical needs across all age groups."

For the baby, the intervention has opened the door to renewed hope - a chance to grow, move, explore the world around her and experience childhood with greater comfort. The case highlights how timely medical care, dedicated caregivers and committed doctors can come together to change the course of a child's life.

Shreya Hearing Clinic

Since the inception in 1998 , Shreya Hearing Clinic , envisioned by Director , Dr. Sathya Ranna , who holds Ph D in Audiology , has been committed to making some of the latest technology hearing aids available to people . From this humble beginnings with a single clinic in Indiranagar , Bengaluru , 28 years ago , Shreya Hearing Clinic today has a chain of fifteen branches in Bengaluru , Mysuru , Mangaluru and Hyderabad .Backed the by a professional team of over 50 members , the cutting edge clinic spanning over 8000 sq feet , with computerised accurate testing facilities and advanced equipment , offers effective solutions customized to suit each person's needs . With nanotechnology progressing in leaps and bounds , even self-concious hearing disabled individuals need not worry as the high technology packed hearing aids which are smaller than a thumb nail come as a blessing.

Further , connecting to mobile phones or being able to hear the TV better is now very easy , as these aids use pioneering Bluetooth technology , ensuring hearing impairment hardly interferes with your daily life . Users can wear these hearing aids like a Airpod in astylish manner and stream music . Latest technology hearing aids are comparable to Dolby Atoms offers surround-sound technology , which expands on existing surround sound systems by adding height channels , allowing sounds to be interpreted as three-dimentional objects with neither horizontal nor vertical limitations. With this technology , the hearing impaired can listen to clear speech in noisy and crowded places like parties or marriage halls," explains Dr. Sathya Ranna.Going beyond hearing aids, Shreya Hearing Clinic also has a counselling center for patients whose impairment has left them psychologically and socially troubled . " Many people are unaware of the technology available and suffer in silence .

ADVERTISEMENT

Understanding Knee Arthritis: Questions & Answers for the General Public

By Dr. Sanjeev MN, Orthopaedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon

Understanding Knee Arthritis: Questions & Answers for the General Public
By Dr. Sanjeev MN, Orthopaedic and Joint Replacement Surgeon

1. What is knee arthritis?
Knee arthritis is a condition where the smooth cartilage covering the knee joint gradually wears away. Cartilage acts like a cushion between the bones. When it becomes damaged, the bones start rubbing against each other, leading to pain, stiffness, swelling, and difficulty in walking. It is one of the most common causes of knee pain in middle-aged and elderly individuals.
The most common type is osteoarthritis, which usually develops with age. However, arthritis can also occur due to previous injuries, obesity, infections, inflammatory diseases like rheumatoid arthritis, or excessive strain on the joint.

2. What are the common symptoms of knee arthritis?
Patients usually complain of pain while walking, climbing stairs, or standing for long periods, morning stiffness, swelling around the knee, grinding sounds, difficulty sitting cross-legged, and reduced walking distance.

3. Who is at risk of developing knee arthritis?
Risk factors include age above 45 years, obesity, previous knee injuries, sedentary lifestyle, family history of arthritis, vitamin D deficiency, and inflammatory joint diseases.

4. Is knee arthritis only a disease of old age?
No. Younger individuals can also develop arthritis due to obesity, sports injuries, ligament tears, improper lifestyle, or autoimmune conditions.

5. Can knee arthritis be cured completely without surgery?
In early stages, symptoms can often be controlled effectively without surgery. Conservative treatment includes weight reduction, physiotherapy, lifestyle modifications, medications, braces, and selected injections.

6. What role does exercise play in arthritis?
Exercise helps strengthen muscles around the knee, improve flexibility, and reduce pain. Walking, cycling, swimming, and physiotherapy-guided exercises are beneficial.

7. Does climbing stairs worsen knee arthritis?
Excessive stair climbing may aggravate symptoms in existing arthritis, but occasional stair use does not directly cause arthritis.

8. Are knee injections safe?
Certain injections like lubricating injections or PRP therapies may help selected patients. However, repeated unsupervised steroid injections can damage the joint.

9. When is surgery needed for knee arthritis?
Surgery is considered when pain becomes severe, walking becomes difficult, conservative treatment fails, and quality of life is significantly affected.

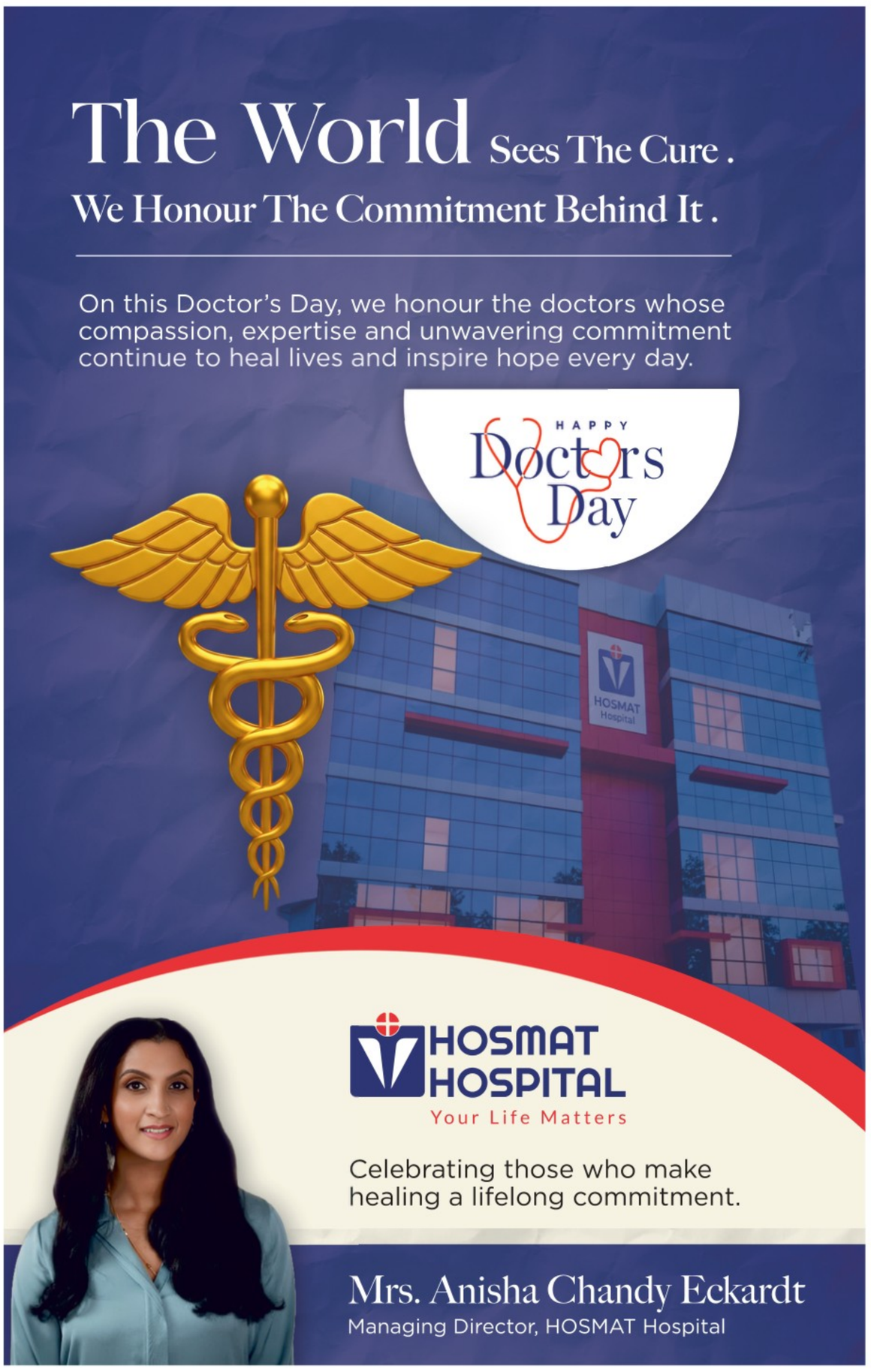
10. What is knee replacement surgery?
Knee replacement surgery involves replacing damaged joint surfaces with artificial implants to relieve pain and restore mobility.

11. Is knee replacement surgery safe?
Yes. Modern knee replacement surgery is highly advanced and safe when performed in appropriate patients by experienced orthopedic surgeons.

12. What are the common myths about knee arthritis and knee replacement?
Myth: Walking causes arthritis.
Fact: Walking in moderation helps maintain joint health.
Myth: Arthritis patients should completely rest.
Fact: Excessive rest worsens stiffness and muscle weakness.
Myth: Knee replacement requires months of bed rest.
Fact: Most patients start walking very early after surgery.
Myth: Artificial knees last only a few years.
Fact: Modern implants can last 15–25 years or longer.

13. Can lifestyle changes help prevent arthritis progression?
Yes. Maintaining ideal body weight, regular exercise, balanced diet, and early treatment can significantly delay arthritis progression.

14. What message would you like to give to the public regarding knee arthritis?
Knee arthritis is common, but suffering silently is not necessary. Early diagnosis, proper treatment, and modern orthopedic care can help patients maintain mobility and quality of life.



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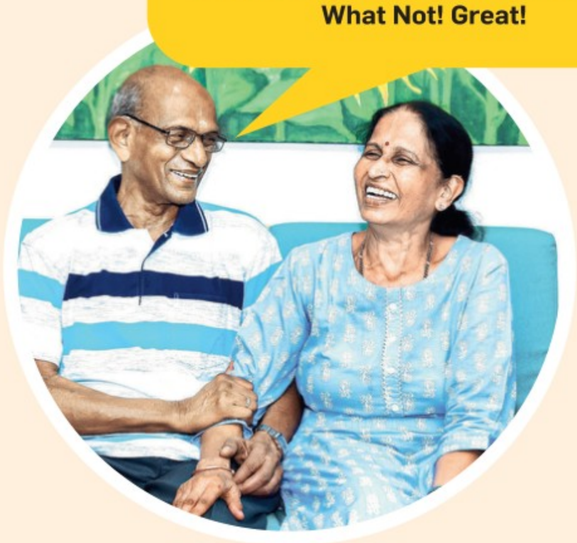

Rechargeable Hearing Aids

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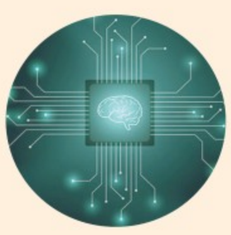
Multi Microphone



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Centers at Hyderabad, Mangaluru and Mysuru
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State to consider RTC bus fare hike as fuel costs rise, says Transport Minister

He says the fuel prices have increased four times in the last five to six months, but the govt. has so far refrained from increasing bus fares to protect commuters from additional financial burden

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Transport Minister Byrathi Suresh says that any fare increase would be aimed at reducing the mounting financial losses of the RTCs while ensuring that passengers are affected as little as possible. FILE PHOTO

Transport Minister Byrathi Suresh on Tuesday said the State government is considering a marginal revision in fares of buses operated by the State-run Road Transport Corporations (RTCs) following a sharp increase in fuel prices over the past few months.

The Minister said that the fuel prices have increased four times in the last five to six months, but the government has so far refrained from increasing bus fares in order to protect commuters from additional financial burden. "We have not increased bus fares despite repeated fuel price hikes. But now a marginal revision is being considered. A final decision will be taken only after discussions with Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar, followed by approval from the State Cabinet," he said.

He added that any increase would be aimed at reducing the mounting financial losses of the RTCs while ensuring that passengers are affected as little as possible.

Shakti reimbursements

Meanwhile, Mr. Suresh said the Congress government's flagship Shakti scheme, which offers free bus travel for women in Karnataka, has led to pending reimbursement dues of around ₹5,500 crore to the State transport corporations.

He said that the Transport Department has requested the Chief Minister to release the pending dues at the earliest to ease the financial pressure on the corporations.

The Minister also said salary arrears of employees in RTCs would be cleared after reviewing the State's financial position.

Electric buses

Responding to criticism from Tejasvi Surya, BJP Bengaluru South MP, over the State's handling of centrally supported electric bus procurement, Mr. Suresh rejected the allegations and accused the MP of misleading the public.

Mr. Surya had alleged recently that the Karnataka government is delaying the induction of 4,500 electric buses sanctioned by the Centre for the Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC), and claimed that the Congress government is prioritising expensive tunnel road over improving Bengaluru's public transport

Mr. Suresh said that Karnataka plans to procure 4,500 electric buses on an eight-year contract basis. However, he clarified that the Union government would not bear the entire cost of the project.

According to Mr. Suresh, the Centre's contribution is limited to around ₹30 lakh to ₹35 lakh per bus, while the State government would still have to pay the contracting company between ₹2,850 crore and ₹3,000 crore annually, depending on the number of kilometres operated by the buses.

He said that portraying the project as being fully funded by the Centre was inaccurate and ignored the significant financial commitment required from the State government.

State amends service rules to recruit Computer Science teachers for govt. schools

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

A total of 2,500 teachers will be recruited from the School Education Department and 463 teachers will be recruited to the PM Shree schools through Samagra Shikshana Karnataka. FILE PHOTO

The Karnataka government has amended the Karnataka Education Department Services (Department of Public Instruction) (Recruitment) Rules-1967 to allow for the recruitment of Computer Science graduates as teachers for classes 6 to 8 in government schools.

A total of 2,500 teachers will be recruited from the School Education Department and 463 teachers will be recruited to the PM Shree schools through Samagra Shikshana Karnataka (SSK).

Qualifications

The teachers have to be Science (Computer Science) or Bachelor of Computer Application (BCA) or Bachelor of Information Technology or Bachelor of Engineering or Bachelor of Technology in Computer Science graduates to qualify for these posts.

The candidates must also have obtained Bachelor of Education (BEd) degree from an institution recognised by National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) and must also clear Teacher Eligibility Test (TET) within five years of their appointment.

The State government has issued a gazette draft notification in this regard. Their salaries will range from ₹44,425 to ₹83,700.

'The C&R rules have been amended and a draft notification issued; recruitment notification will be issued after the final C&R is arrived at'

Speaking to *The Hindu*, Vikas Kishor Suralkar, Commissioner of Public Instructions, said, "The C&R rules have been amended and a draft notification issued. The recruitment notification will be issued after the final C&R is arrived at."

The State government has already started 309 Karnataka Public Schools (KPS) to provide quality education with necessary infrastructure from preschool to class 12 under one roof. In addition, with the help of Asian Development Bank, steps have been taken to build 800 new KPS from the current academic year.

A total of 463 government schools are also being developed across the State under the PM Shree scheme.

The computer education is mandatory for students in these schools.

Computer labs

Many schools now have computer labs. However, government had not yet appointed separate teachers for teaching the subject. Instead, some trained teachers who had already been appointed were teaching computer science.

Since a large number of the KPS are being started this year, the Education Department has taken steps to create a separate C&R to hire the computer science teachers.

Manjula calls for strict safety measures at STPs

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

In the wake of the recent accident at a sewage treatment plant (STP) in Varthur, where two workers are feared to have died after three of them allegedly fell into a 40-ft-deep BWSSB sewage treatment tank, Bangalore Water Supply and Sewerage Board (BWSSB) chairperson Manjula N. has directed employees to strictly adhere to safety protocols while working at STP facilities.

Highest priority

Speaking after inaugurating a health and safety workshop organised by the BWSSB at Cauvery Bhavan on Monday, Ms. Manjula said that employee safety must remain the organisation's highest priority. She urged all staff working at STPs to exercise maximum caution and follow all prescribed precautionary measures to prevent accidents.

Strengthen awareness

The workshop was organised to strengthen awareness of health and safety practices among employees and to reinforce the importance of adopting preventive measures during STP operations.

Ms. Manjula said the initiative aimed to ensure that no untoward incidents occur while carrying out maintenance and operational work at STPs.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
O/o Executive Engineer, PWD, Udupi Division, Udupi - 576101.
C. No. : (0820) 2531802

No. PWD:UDN:NIT-06:2026-27:AE2 Dated: 29.06.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

It is here by notified for the information of intending eligible registered contractor in Karnataka PWD, through e-portal "kppp.karnataka.gov.in" as per Karnataka transparency in public procurement act - 2023, as per specified terms & condition notified there in. The Last date for submission of tender on **16.07.2026** through E-procurement portal "kppp.karnataka.gov.in" under **5054-80-190-0-01-132** head, 1 work costing **Rs. 377.13 Lakhs (excluding GST)** for KRDCL Brdige Works. For more information contact office during office hours.

Sd/-, Executive Engineer
Public Works Department, Udupi Division, Udupi.

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Executive Engineer (Building Maintenance & Transport), BCCC, Anex Building-2, Ground Floor, GBA Head Office Premises, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002.

No: EE/B.M&T/BCCC/TEND/03/2026-27 Date: 30.06.2026

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)
(Two Cover System)(Through GoK KPP Portal only)

The Executive Engineer, Building Maintenance & Transport, BCCC invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for the construction of works detailed in the table below.

Sl. No.	Name of the work
1	Improvements to Offices @ 18th Floor in Public Utility Building Mayo Hall. **Approx. Amount put to tender** (Excl.GST)**: Rs.81,33,556/-. EMD: Rs. 1,62,700/-. Cost of Tender Form:** As per KPP portal. **Period of Completion :** 8 Months including Monsoon Period.
2	Providing CC TV Camera and LED Lights to all Corridors in Public Utility Building Mayo Hall. **Approx. Amount put to tender** (Excl.GST)**: Rs.47,78,512/-. EMD: Rs. 95,600/-. Cost of Tender Form:** As per KPP portal. **Period of Completion:** 6 Months including Monsoon Period.
3	Providing Borewell & Improvements to Sir Puttanna Chetty Town Hall in BCCC Limits. **Approx. Amount put to tender** (Excl.GST)**: Rs.67,10,489/-. EMD: Rs. 1,34,500/-. Cost of Tender Form:** As per KPP portal. **Period of Completion :** 8 Months including Monsoon Period.
4	Providing Borewell & Improvements ABC Block Quarters @ Sampangiramnagar in BCCC Limits. **Approx. Amount put to tender** (Excl.GST)**: Rs.39,83,527/-. EMD: Rs. 79,700/-. Cost of Tender Form:** As per KPP portal. **Period of Completion :** 6 Months including Monsoon Period.

Calendar of Events: (1) Tender documents may be downloaded from KPP Portal of GOK https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in **from 01.07.2026 onwards.** (2) Last date for receipt of Queries: **03.07.2026 before 16.00 hrs.** through KPP Portal only. (3) Pre-bid meeting will be held on **04.07.2026 at 16.30 hrs.** in the Office of the Executive Engineer (B.M&T), Ground Floor, Annex Building-2, GBA Head Office Premises, N.R. Square, Bengaluru-560 002. (4) Tenders must be submitted online through KPP portal **on or before 16.00 hrs. on 08.07.2026.** (5) Opening of Technical Bids: **09.07.2026 at 16.30 hrs.**

Further details can be had from the office of the above during office hours on all working days or visit KPP Portal website: **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Executive Engineer, Building Maintenance & Transport
Bengaluru Central City Corporation

BENGALURU EAST CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer,
Marathahalli Division, Bellandur 3rd Cross,
Bellandur Main Road, Bellandur, Bengaluru-560103

No.: EE/BECC/MRH/TEND/02/26-27 Date: 30.06.2026

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
(Only through KPP Portal)

Executive Engineer, Marathahalli Division, Zone-1 invites Request for Proposal from interested persons / firms those **who have done similar type of work for Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC)** for the works given in the table through KPP Portal.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1	Providing PMC Service including Supervision, Quality Control for the "Comprehensive development of Roads, and Drains and other allied works in Ward No. 45-Marathalli, 46-Yamlur, 47-Bellanduru, 49-Doddakannelli, 41-Munnekollala, 48-Panathur in Marathahalli Division Mahadevapura Constituency. (Sl No. from 01 to 20 of Annexure-2)" **Value of main Work (in Lakhs) (excluding G.S.T): 980.00, EMD amount in Rs.: 25,000/-.**

Calendar of events: (1) Tender Documents may be downloaded from Government of Karnataka KPP Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. (2)** Last date and time for uploading pre bid quires: **04.07.2026** at **3:00 p.m. (3)** Pre-bid meeting at office of undersigned: **04.07.2026** at **4:00 p.m. (4)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **09.07.2026** up to **4:00 p.m. (5)** Opening of Technical bid: **10.07.2026** at **4:30 p.m.** Further details may be obtained from the above office during office hours or website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Marathahalli Division, BECC

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ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ
(www.kpwd.gov.in)

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ದೂರವಾಣಿ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 080-22133370 Email ID: eepwdbngdn@yahoo.com
E-Portal : https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/#/portal/portal-home

ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: 01/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ:30.06.2026

ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು, ಲೋಕೋಪಯೋಗಿ ಇಲಾಖೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ರವರು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕೆ.ಟಿ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ. 2000 ರನ್ವಯ, ನಂ.2 ಉತ್ತರ ಉಪ-ವಿಭಾಗ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ಅನುಮೋದನೆಗೊಂಡಿರುವ ಹಾಸ್ಟಲ್ ಕಟ್ಟಡ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗೆ ಅವಶ್ಯವೆಂದು ಕಂಡುಬಂದಿರುವ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಮೂರು ಅಂಶಗಳಿಗೆ ದರಪಟ್ಟಿಯಲ್ಲಿ ದರಗಳು ಲಭ್ಯವಿಲ್ಲದ ಕಾರಣ ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿ ಅಂದಾಜು ಪಟ್ಟಿಗೆ ದರಗಳನ್ನು ಅಂತಿಮಗೊಳಿಸಲು, ಸದರಿ ಅಂಶಗಳನ್ನು ನಿರ್ವಹಿಸಿ ಅನುಭವ/ಆಸಕ್ತಿಯುಳ್ಳ ಸಂಸ್ಥೆ/ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರುಗಳಿಂದ ಮೊಹರು ಮಾಡಿದ ಲಕೋಟೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದ್ದು, ವಿವರ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನಂತಿವೆ:-

1.Boring, providing, and installation of bored cast-in-situ reinforced cement concrete piles of 500 mm diameter and M-25 grade concrete below the pile cap.....
2.Drilling 150 mm diameter boreholes using rotary drilling / hydraulic rig using Churn percussion Drilling method.....
3.Providing and installing 500 mm diameter bored cast-in-situ reinforced cement concrete piles of Grade M-25 blow pile cap.....etc.,

· ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 4.00 ಗಂಟೆಗೆ
· ಕೊಟೇಷನ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 10.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 4.30 ಗಂಟೆಯ ನಂತರ.

ಅಂಶಗಳ ಪೂರ್ಣ ವಿಶ್ಲೇಷಣೆ ಹಾಗೂ ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ವಿವರಗಳಿಗಾಗಿ ಈ ಕಛೇರಿಯನ್ನು ಸಂಪರ್ಕಿಸುವುದು.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಅಭಿಯಂತರರು
ಲೋ.ಇ. ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ವಿಭಾಗ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು.

DIPR/CP/1410/Zen/2026-27

BANGALORE DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
T. Chowdaiah Road, Kumara Park West, Bengaluru - 560 020

No. BDA/EE(ID)/TEN/302/2026-27 Date: 29.06.2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited through GOK platform **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** by the Engineer Member, Bangalore Development Authority, on behalf of the Commissioner, BDA, Bengaluru, **Indent No. BDA/2026-27/SE0111.**

Name of the Work: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR AUTHORITY'S ENGINEER FOR SUPERVISION OF CONSTRUCTION OF 3 LANE BI DIRECTIONAL ROAD UNDERPASS ON BELLARY ROAD BETWEEN HEBBAL JUNCTION AND UNIVERSITY OF AGRICULTURE SCIENCES (UAS) STAFF QUARTERS VIA KARNATAKA VETERINARY ANIMAL AND FISHERIES SCIENCES UNIVERSITY(KVAFSU) CAMPUS BENGALURU. EMD: **Rs. 10.84 Lakhs.** Estimate Cost : **Rs. 1084.00 Lakhs.** Tender Document Available from: **01st July 2026 onwards.** Last date for receiving queries: **06th July upto 16.00 hrs.** Pre bid meeting: **07th July upto 16.00 hrs.** Last Date of Bid submission: **10th July up to 17:00 hrs.** Opening of Technical Bid Documents: **13th July up to 11:30 hrs.** Opening of Financial Bid Documents : Will be intimated. For all other details refer **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Helpline/WhatsApp. 94831 66622 (24x7). @BDAOfficialGoK

Sd/-Engineer Member, BDA, Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are hereby informed that our client intends to enter into certain transaction in respect of the property described in the Schedule hereunder ("Schedule Property") with Shri. Venkataramanappa, son of Shri. Muniyappa, based on his representation that he is the sole and absolute owner thereof with uninhibited rights of alienation over the same.

Any person claiming to have any manner of right, title, claim or interest in the Schedule Property or any portion thereof is hereby called upon to notify the undersigned with documents in support of their claim within Fourteen (14) days from the date of this notice, after which period, our client shall proceed with the proposed transaction on the basis that there are no claims of whatsoever nature with regard to the Schedule Property or any part thereof nor any objections against any transaction between the said person and our client.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Property)

All that piece and parcel of immovable property being agricultural land bearing Survey No. 21/1, measuring 28½ Guntas, situated in Bachchahalli Village, Kundana Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District and bounded as under; **East by :** Land bearing Survey No. 22; **West by :** Land bearing Survey No. 20; **North by :** Land bearing Survey No. 22; and **South by :** Land bearing Survey No. 21/2.

Place : Bengaluru **Date :** July 01, 2026

Sd/- A. Supreeth, Partner, **ALLIED LAW PRACTICES,** Advocates
1/1, 3rd Floor, Millers Arcade, Millers Road, Vasanth Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 001
Ph: +91 (080) 2222 0003

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ANDHRA PRADESH CAPITAL REGION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (APCRDA)
Rayapudi, Thullur Mandal, Amaravati-522237 (A.P.)

NIT No: 02/MAU61-USI0HB(OTH)/93/2026-HB/3rd call Dt.: 29-06-2026

E PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE (Third Call)

Name of Work: "Engaging of Technical persons for Carpenters, Plumbers, Operators for Operation & Maintenance of Secretariat Buildings: 1 to 6 and WTP & STP at AP Secretariat, IGC, Velagapudi for 24 Months" - **Estimate Cost Rs.1,44,00,000/-.** The bid can be downloaded on AP e-procurement portal from **01.07.2026 to 08.07.2026 up to 14.00 Hrs.** Due date for submission of Bid **08.07.2026 up to 15.00 Hrs.,** Technical bid opening **08.07.2026 @16.00 Hrs**. For further details please refer to **www.apeprocurement.gov.in** and **www.crda.ap.gov.in**

Sd/- Commissioner, APCRDA, Rayapudi

HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA
Bengaluru-560001

No. HCRB/DEA-6/2026 (RPC) Date: 30.06.2026
HCRB/DEA-7/2026 (KKR)

BRIEF NOTIFICATION

Online applications are invited by High Court of Karnataka for filling up of 28 posts of Data Entry Assistant [21 posts under Residual Parent Cadre including 06 backlog posts and 7 posts under Kalyana Karnataka Region including 05 backlog posts]. Pay scale of the said post is **Rs. 25,500/- Rs.81,100/-.** The Last date for submission of online application is **28.07.2026 till 11.59 p.m.**

Eligible candidates are required to apply only through 'Online' by visiting the official website of High Court of Karnataka at **judiciary.karnataka.gov.in.** No other means / mode of applications will be accepted. The Notification and other details are available in the above mentioned portal and in the official Gazette (E-Gazette) of Karnataka dated **29.06.2026.**

Sd/- (M. CHANDRASHEKAR REDDY)
REGISTRAR GENERAL ,
HIGH COURT OF KARNATAKA, BENGALURU.

DIPR/CP/1395/Zen/2026-27

Bangalore Mysore Infrastructure Corridor Area Planning Authority
#05, 2nd Floor, Looplane, Race Course Road, Bangalore - 560009
Telephone: 080 - 22341230/35, **e-mail:** bmicapa@gmail.com

No. BMICAPA/CLU-02/95/2025-26/524 **Date:** 25.06.2026

PUBLICATION
(UNDER SEC 14(A) OF KTCP ACT, 1961)

Sri B.V.Mallappa S/o B.N. Veeraiah, Sri Ravi.N S/o Naachimuthu, Sri Shivkumar B.S S/o Siddaiah, Manjula.B.S D/o Siddaiah, Latha D/o Late Venkatappa.C, Lakshmamma D/o Late Venkatappa.C and Pankaja D/o Late Venkatappa.C have applied to this Authority seeking Change of land use from **"Agriculture"** Zone to **"Commercial"** purpose pertaining to Sy.No:104/5 extent of 02 Acre-03½Guntas, Sy.No:104/6 extent of 0Acre-10Guntas, Sy.No:104/27 extent of 0Acre-10 Guntas, Sy.No:104/28 extent of 01Acre-26½ Guntas, Sy.No:104/63 extent of 0Acre-10Guntas, Sy.No:116/4 extent of 00 Acre-33½Guntas, Sy.No:116/34 extent of 00 Acre-01¾ Guntas and Sy.No:116/35 extent of 0Acre-01¼ Guntas totally measuring 05Acre-16½ Guntas of Bananduru Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk under Sec 14(A) of KTCP Act 1961. The foresaid lands are reserved for **Agriculture zone** in approved Master plan. Applicant has stated that the change of land use sought is in the interest of public by quoting the following;

1. By developing the said lands for **commercial purposes**, the General Public will benefit through increased economic activity and job opportunities. **2.** During the development works of the commercial project, there will be opportunity for employment of local labourers and skilled workers.**3.** Surrounding areas will be developed due to the proposed commercial development in the above said lands. **4**. By planned commercial development, the public will be benefited with civic amenities such as good roads, parking facilities, infrastructure improvements, etc. The Government will also get revenue in the form of taxes.

Objections, if any, are invited from the public. Any person may file his/her objection to the Member Secretary, B.M.I.C.A.P.A., Bengaluru in writing to the address of this Authority **within 15 days** from the date of this notice. Any objections received after the stipulated time will not be considered.

Sd/- **Member Secretary**
BMICAPA, Bengaluru

DIPR/CP/1392/SA/2026-27

City's key toll roads to get revised user fee from today

Motorists travelling from Hosur Road to Tumakuru Road via peripheral road will pay toll as per individual sections crossed

Darshan Devaiah B.P.
BENGALURU

Commuters using two of Bengaluru's busiest toll corridors, the Electronics City Elevated Expressway on Hosur Road and the NICE Road will have to pay revised toll charges from Wednesday.

Nandi Economic Corridor Enterprises Limited (NECE) has revised toll rates for various stretches of the Bengaluru-Mysuru Infrastructure Corridor Project (BMIC/NICE Road) with effect from Wednesday.

Under the revised tariff, motorists travelling the entire stretch from Hosur Road to Tumakuru Road through the peripheral road will pay toll according to the individual sections crossed. For instance, the toll for cars has been fixed at ₹72 between Hosur Road and Bannerghatta Road, ₹77 between Mysore Road and Magadi Road, and ₹83 on the Link Road. Two-wheeler tolls range from ₹11 to ₹33, depending on the section used.

Bangalore Elevated Tollway Pvt. Ltd. (BETPL), which operates the Electronics City Elevated Expressway and the Attibele Toll Plaza on NH-44, announced that the revised toll rates have been calculated based on the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) as on March 31, 2026, in accordance with National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) guidelines. The revised rates will remain in force until June 30, 2027.

For the Electronics City Elevated Section, a single journey for cars, jeeps and vans will now cost ₹65, while the multiple journey fee has been fixed at ₹100. The monthly pass has been revised to ₹1,960. Two-wheelers will continue to pay ₹25 for a single trip and ₹40 for multiple journeys.

At the Attibele Toll Plaza, cars, jeeps and vans will pay ₹40 for a single journey and ₹60 for multiple journeys, while the monthly pass has been revised to ₹1,175. As before, two-wheelers remain exempt from toll at the Attibele plaza.

Bengaluru toll hike

Revised Toll Charges Effective: July 1, 2026

Electronics City Elevated Expressway (BETPL)

Vehicle category	Single journey	Multiple journeys	Monthly pass
Two-wheeler	₹25	₹40	₹785
Car/jeep/van	₹65	₹100	₹1,960
LCV/mini bus	₹90	₹135	₹2,745
Bus/lorry	₹185	₹275	₹5,495
Multi-axle vehicle	₹365	₹550	₹10,985

Attibele Toll Plaza (NH-44)

Vehicle category	Single journey	Multiple journeys	Monthly pass
Two-wheeler	Free	Free	Free
Car/jeep/van	₹40	₹60	₹1,175
LCV/mini bus	₹65	₹100	₹1,960
Bus/truck	₹130	₹195	₹3,925
Multi-axle vehicle	₹275	₹410	₹8,240

NICE Road (BMIC) revised car toll

Section	Car toll
Hosur Road – Bannerghatta Road	₹72
Bannerghatta Road – Kanakapura Road	₹53
Kanakapura Road – Cloverleaf Junction	₹39
Cloverleaf Junction – Mysore Road	₹36
Mysore Road – Magadi Road	₹77
Magadi Road – Tumakuru Road	₹61
Link Road	₹83

Nandi Economic Corridor Enterprises Limited has revised toll rates for various stretches of the Bengaluru-Mysuru Infrastructure Corridor Project

GBA to roll out 'Safe Footpath' campaign today

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Street vendors operating stalls on a footpath in front of Bowring and Lady Curzon Hospital in Bengaluru. FILE PHOTO

Action against encroachments on footpaths may begin from Wednesday, as part of the 'Safe Footpath Campaign', with the Greater Bengaluru Authority (GBA), in coordination with the Bengaluru Traffic Police, rolling out the drive between July 1 and 10 across a 2,000-km road network in the city.

Announcing the campaign, Bengaluru Development Minister Krishna Byre Gowda said, "Prepare a list of roads where the drive has to be conducted, create awareness among shops and vendors in these areas, serve them notices, and then move ahead with clearing encroachments if they do not budge."

However, corporation commissioners said roads have already been identified and that vendors on several stretches have been warned multiple times to remove encroachments. In such cases, the clearance drive will begin on July 1 itself.

During a meeting on Tuesday, the Minister clarified that the footpath clearance drive is aimed at improving pedestrian safety and is not intended to displace street vendors.

"Restrictions on vending apply only to about 20% of major roads where pedestrian movement is severely affected, while vending continues to be permitted on the remaining roads. Shop owners must voluntarily remove illegal encroachments from footpaths, failing which action will be taken as per law," he said.

While the North Corporation has identified 39 roads spanning over 109 km, while the West Corporation has set a target of identifying 10 km of roads in each ward. The corporation officials said engineers and other staff have been trained to identify and fix stretches requiring intervention.

They said that while efforts are under way to clear footpaths, the exercise becomes challenging when the focus is limited to arterial and sub-arterial roads, as such drives are easier to carry out on ward roads.

Days after the Supreme Court declared the right to walk on footpaths a fundamental right, Greenpeace India's Bengaluru Rising campaign, along with residents of Rajarajeshwari Nagar, marked broken, missing and encroached footpaths with yellow "crime scene" tape highlighting, "Constitutional Right denied here".

Amruta S.N., campaigner, Greenpeace India, said, "Every bus or metro journey begins and ends with a walk. If we want more people to choose public transport and active mobility, we must first guarantee safe, continuous and accessible footpaths."

She added that clearing footpaths requires a comprehensive approach to reclaim pedestrian space.

Pointing out that Bengaluru's biggest obstacles are infrastructure failures such as poorly placed utility boxes, transformers, construction debris, parked vehicles, and uneven footpath gradients, the members demanded that the city must address all forms of obstruction through inclusive street design.

CET: Options entry allowed after mock results, says KEA

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The last date for options entry for admissions through Common Entrance Test (CET) to professional courses has ended on Tuesday, and those who have not entered options till now will be allowed to enter it again after the mock seat allotment results, said Karnataka Examinations Authority (KEA) executive director H. Prasanna.

"There is no need to worry or be confused about this. Enough time was given. However, some have not registered options. Such people have to write down their preferred colleges/courses until the mock results are announced and enter it later. There will be an opportunity to enter/change options again after the first round of mock results. Freshers can also register options at that time," Mr. Prasanna explained.

A total of 70 candidates who have applied for admission to professional courses under the sports quota need document verification, Mr. Prasanna said, adding that such candidates have been advised to come to the KEA office on Friday with original documents.

THE HINDU

OPPORTUNITIES

GENERAL

भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक सर्विसेज़ बोर्ड
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA SERVICES BOARD

Advt. No. RBISB/BA/02/2026-27

Lateral Recruitment of Site Engineers on Full-Time Contract Basis in Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

Applications are invited for Lateral Recruitment of Site Engineers on Full-Time Contract Basis to the following posts in the Reserve Bank of India:

Name of Department - Premises Department, Central Office

Sr. No.	Name of the Post	Level (Equivalent Grade)	Vacancies	Job Location*
1	Consultant Site Engineer (Civil)	Level - 2 (Grade 'B')	1	Raipur
2	Consultant Site Engineer (Civil)	Level - 3 (Grade 'C')	6	Chandigarh / Jammu / Lucknow / Mumbai
3	Consultant Site Engineer (Electrical)	Level - 3 (Grade 'C')	1	Mumbai
	Total	-	8	-

* The selected candidates would be liable to be posted to any of the Bank's projects as per the Bank's requirements, irrespective of the candidates' preference of job location.

2. For all other details such as eligibility criteria, reservation of vacancies, scheme of selection, submission of online applications and other instructions, please refer to the detailed advertisement to be published on the Bank's website (www.rbi.org.in) on June 29, 2026. Candidates can apply for the aforementioned posts only by online mode through the Bank's website.
3. Window for Online Registration of Applications and Payment of Application Fees/ Intimation Charges : June 29, 2026 to July 20, 2026 (till 06:00 PM)

Note:
(i) The Board reserves the right to make any changes in the above dates.
(ii) Corrigendum/ Addendum, if any, issued on the above advertisement will be published only on the Bank's website (www.rbi.org.in).

SBI
State Bank of India
Central Recruitment & Promotion Department
Corporate Centre, Mumbai
Phone: 022-22820427
Scan QR to Apply

Engagement of Specialist Cadre Officers on contract Basis

Applications are invited from eligible Indian citizens for the following post on Contract basis:

Advertisement No.: CRPD/SCO/2026-27/10 (Contractual position)

Name of Post	Number of Vacancy	Max Age (Cut off 31.05.2026)
Defence Banking Advisor (Navy)	1	62 years
Advisor (Central Armed Police Force)	1	
Circle Defence Banking Advisor (CDBA)-(Kolkata, Lucknow, Pune)	3	60 years

For eligibility criteria (age, experience, job profile etc.), vacancy details, requisite fees, other details and for online submission of application as well as online payment of application fees log on to Bank's website https://sbi.bank.in/web/careers/current-openings. Refer detailed advertisement to ensure eligibility and other details before applying and remitting fees. For any query, please write to us through link "CONTACT US" → "Post Your Query" which is available on Bank's official website (https://sbi.bank.in/web/careers/post-your-query)

- DATE FOR FILING ONLINE APPLICATION & PAYMENT OF FEES: FROM 18.06.2026 to 08.07.2026.

Place: Mumbai
Date: 18.06.2026
General Manager (RP & PM)

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CRP PO/MT-XVI and CRP SPL-XVI COMMON RECRUITMENT PROCESS FOR RECRUITMENT OF PROBATIONARY OFFICERS/ MANAGEMENT TRAINEES and SPECIALIST OFFICERS (Vacancies of 2027-28) IN PARTICIPATING BANKS
Official Website: www.ibps.in
In case of queries / complaints please log in to https://cgrs.ibps.in

The Online Examinations for the upcoming Common Recruitment Process (CRP) for Recruitment and Selection of Probationary Officers / Management Trainees and Specialist Officers' Cadre Posts in Participating Public Sector Banks are tentatively scheduled as follows:

IMPORTANT DATES

Activity	PO/MT	Specialist Officers
On-line registration including Edit/ Modification of Application by candidates	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026
Payment of Application Fees/Intimation Charges (Online)	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026	01.07.2026 to 21.07.2026
Edit Window for Candidates to Modify/ Correct Application Form (including online payment for Edit)	After closure of Registration (will be notified on Official IBPS website)	After closure of Registration (will be notified on Official IBPS website)
Conduct of Pre-Exam Training	August 2026	--
Online Examination – Preliminary	**August 2026**	**August 2026**
Result of Online exam – Preliminary	September 2026	September / October 2026
Online Examination – Main	**October 2026**	**November 2026**
Declaration of Result – Main Examination	November 2026	November 2026
Personality Test	**November 2026**	--
Conduct of interview	November / December 2026	November / December 2026
Provisional Allotment	January 2027	January 2027

Candidates are advised to regularly visit the official IBPS website www.ibps.in for details and updates.

Candidates intending to apply are advised to read detailed Notification carefully and ensure that they fulfil the minimum eligibility criteria on the stipulated dates before registering online. Candidates must follow the instructions mentioned in each detailed Notification.

Mumbai
Date: 01/07/2026
DIRECTOR

To Advertise in The Hindu Opportunities column, Please contact, gurunathareddy.s@thehindu.co.in or Ph: 9845529981

एनटीपीसी NTPC GREEN
NTPC Green Energy Limited
(A Subsidiary of NTPC Ltd.)
Reg. Office: NTPC Bhawan, SCOPE Complex, 7, Institutional Area, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110003

Advt. No. 02/26

NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL), a subsidiary of NTPC Ltd. has presence in the renewable power and hydrogen generation business. Commensurate with our country's growth challenges, the company has embarked upon an ambitious plan to attain a total installed capacity of 60 GW by 2032.

NGEL is looking for **experienced professionals** for **Renewable Energy area on regular basis** as per details given below:

Name of the Post	Grade	Pay Scale	Vacancies	Upper Age Limit	Minimum Experience
Deputy General Manager-RE	E6	90,000 - 2,40,000	14	44 Years	12 Years
Assistant Engineer – RE (Asset Management/ Operation & Maintenance)	E0	30,000 - 1,20,000	100	40 Years	10 Years

How to Apply: Interested eligible candidates may visit the career section of our website www.ngel.in for viewing detailed eligibility criteria, qualification, experience requirement, remuneration details & full text of advertisement for applying. Only online mode of application will be accepted. Any further addendum/corrigendum/updates will only be published on our website.

Start date of online application 11/07/2026 (From 10:00 Hrs)
Last date of online application 31/07/2026 (Till 18:00 Hrs)

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035.

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION No: CMRL/HR/REG/03/2026 dated 01-07-2026.

CMRL invites applications from qualified & experienced personnel for appointment of under mentioned posts on regular basis :-

S. No	Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Scale of Pay (IDA Pattern)*	Max Age (Yrs)	Required Qualification
1	GM (Operations)	01	Rs.120000 - 280000	55	B.E / B.Tech or any Graduate
2	DGM (Rolling Stock)	02	Rs.80000 - 220000	40	B.E / B.Tech (Electrical / ECE)
3	DGM (Automatic Fare Collection)	01	Rs.80000 - 220000	40	B.E / B.Tech in (ECE / EEE / IT / CSE) or combination of any of these disciplines
4	Manager (Automatic Fare Collection)	01	Rs.70000 - 200000	38	

Note:
i. *Apart from the Basic Pay, DA (IDA pattern), HRA (30% of Basic Pay), Cafeteria Allowance (31.5% of Basic Pay) and other benefits will also be paid.
ii. Reservation of posts will be followed as per the Government of Tamil Nadu Guidelines.
iii. The detailed employment notification will be published in CMRL website under careers section vide URL: https://chennaimetrorail.org. on or before 03-07-2026.
iv. Age, qualification & experience stipulated for the above mentioned posts should be as on 01-07-2026. Age will be relaxed for deserving & experienced candidates.
v. Last date for receipt of online applications is 20-07-2026.

For Managing Director
Chief General Manager (HR & Legal)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited
DIPR/576/DISPLAY/2026

GENERAL

UDUPI COCHIN SHIPYARD LIMITED
Malpe, Karnataka
Wholly Owned subsidiary of Cochin Shipyard Limited
Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India.

RECRUITMENT OF EXECUTIVES ON PERMANENT BASIS
Ref. No.UCSL/IMS/HR/VN/F/11-AGM(C&P_Dsn)/M(Hul)/DM(Mrn)/89 dated 24 June 2026

Sl. No.	Name of Posts	No. of Posts
01	Assistant General Manager (Contract & Procurement)	1 Post
02	Assistant General Manager (Design)	1 Post
03	Manager (HULL)	1 Post
04	Deputy Manager (Marine)	1 Post

Last date for submission of application: 16 July 2026
For more details on age, qualification, remuneration, reservations, dates etc with regards to this advertisement visit www.cochinshipyard.in or www.udupicsl.com
Sd/-
MANAGER (HR&IR)

CHENNAI METRO RAIL LIMITED
(A Joint Venture of Govt. of India & Govt. of Tamil Nadu)
(ISO 9001:2015 AND ISO 14001:2015 CERTIFIED)
METROS, ANNA SALAI, NANDANAM, CHENNAI - 600 035

EMPLOYMENT NOTIFICATION
No: CMRL/HR/CON/DEP/04/2026, Dated: 01-07-2026.

CMRL invites applications from qualified & experienced personnel for appointment of under mentioned posts on deputation / contract basis :-

S. No	Name of the Post	No. of Posts	Consolidated Pay for Contract (Per Month)	Max Age (Yrs)	Required Qualification
1	CGM (Electrical Systems)	01	Rs.2,70,000/-	55	B.E / B.Tech (Electrical)
	GM (Electrical Systems)		Rs.2,25,000/-		
2	CGM (Rolling Stock)	01	Rs.2,70,000/-	55	B.E / B.Tech (Electrical / ECE)
	GM (Rolling Stock)		Rs.2,25,000/-		
3	JGM (Architect)	01	Rs.1,45,000/-	43	B.Arch
4	DGM (Finance & Accounts)	01	Rs.1,25,000/-	40	UG / PG with CA/CMA
5	Manager (Architect)	02	Rs.85,000/-	38	B.Arch

Note:
i) The deputationist shall have the option either to draw pay being drawn in the parent organization with deputation allowance and project allowance at 10% of Basic Pay each.
(or)
To draw equivalent cadre IDA pay scale in CMRL with IDA, HRA and Cafeteria Allowance (31.5% of Basic Pay).
ii) The detailed employment notification will be published in CMRL website under careers section vide URL: https://chennaimetrorail.org. on or before 03-07-2026.
iii) Age, qualification & experience stipulated for the above posts should be as on 01-07-2026. Age will be relaxed for deserving & experienced candidates.
iv) Salary is negotiable for deserving candidates.
v) Last date for receipt of online applications is 20-07-2026.

For Managing Director
Chief General Manager (HR & Legal)
Chennai Metro Rail Limited
DIPR/577/Display/2026

Indian and foreign

Forcing students to learn at least two Indian languages is not ideal

The controversy over introducing a third language from Class 6 stems from an unresolved contradiction in the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020. At several places, the NEP, rightly, extols the special importance of English, especially in mathematics, science and even legal education, and does not club it with other "foreign" languages such as French or Spanish. At the same time, it advocates the three-language formula, with two languages required to be native to India, one of them ideally the mother tongue, in effect relegating English to the status of a foreign language. The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) has implemented this aspect of the NEP, ignoring other welcome observations that the policy makes on language learning. While introducing three languages from Class 6, it said students in Classes 7, 8 and 9 should also study three languages, of which two should be "Bharatiya". Thus, if a student had taken French as a second language along with English, they would have had to forego French and switch to two Bharatiya languages, one of which would be entirely new to them. This could adversely affect their Class 10 Board examination performance, and render redundant the teaching capacity and resources schools had built in those languages. Following backlash, the CBSE has said that students in Classes 7, 8 and 9 need take only one additional Bharatiya language if they had taken English and, say, Spanish. The third language, moreover, will not be tested in the Class 10 examinations. These are, however, temporary arrangements and the CBSE is going ahead with the three language policy with two Bharatiya languages from Class 6.

Prudence demands that if the NEP is to guide the Union government's decisions, it should ensure language learning that serves the best interests of students. The policy speaks of the need for "high-quality bilingual textbooks and teaching-learning materials for science and mathematics, so that students are enabled to think and speak about the two subjects both in their home language/mother tongue and in English". Here, the NEP places the mother tongue and English on an equal footing if STEM is to be central to India's progress. In the same breath, it speaks of the importance of learning languages such as Japanese and German at the secondary level to enhance students' "mobility". The government's vision is to skill Indians for cutting-edge jobs worldwide, building the human capital needed to drive India's development. Instead of atavistic relapses, education initiatives should look ahead to serve at least this vision, even if that model is open to question. Given that the CBSE often becomes the template for much of India, the better course would be to teach the mother tongue and English and, where resources permit and students desire, offer a third language of their choice.

Data doubts

The latest IIP dataset raises more questions than it answers

India's latest industrial growth figures show that, contrary to global trends and overall perception, the country's industrial output is getting stronger. Notably, the data show a quick bounce-back in industrial performance after the initial hit from the West Asia crisis. However, the new data also raise some important concerns about the composition of the growth, the systems behind the recent data upgrades, and the need for further improvements. Growth in the Index of Industrial Production hit a five-month high of 5.1% in May 2026, up from the 4.9% growth seen in April, which itself was a substantial improvement over the performance in March – the first full month after the West Asia crisis began. Within this, the manufacturing sector grew at a relatively robust 5.5% in May, albeit slower than in April. One view is that this is due to a revival in domestic consumption, since the consumer durables and non-durables sectors also grew at multi-month highs. Consumer durables, especially, have done well in April and May. However, the contrary argument is that domestic demand is in fact not doing well, and it is export growth that is leading to higher production. This is bolstered by the fact that GST revenues from domestic transactions have grown slower over the last six months than in 2025-26 and the year before that. Merchandise exports, on the other hand, hit a four-year high in April followed by an all-time high in May. It would certainly be welcome if India's industry has global demand to fill, but the fact that more of this demand is not coming from within the country is a cause for concern. The economy is already hostage to world events.

The May IIP data were also accompanied by a note from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) stating that it had made a major change to the methodology for computing growth for some sectors. It had abandoned the Wholesale Price Index as its chosen deflator to estimate the value of production in favour of the new Producer Price Index. This is a more accurate approach. But it did not, however, answer why this change was implemented belatedly and not when the new series of data was introduced on June 1. It suggests an unusually unsystematic approach by MoSPI. The strong growth in the IIP also does not reconcile with the fact that the Index of Eight Core Sectors – a separate government measure of industrial growth – grew at its second-lowest rate in 21 months in May. The core sector index is still outdated while the other major indices have been recently updated, but such a discrepancy nevertheless raises questions about what exactly is being measured.

India's 'Israel habit' meets West Asian realities

Vinay Kaura

Assistant Professor in the Department of International Affairs and Security Studies at the Sardar Patel University of Police, Security and Criminal Justice, Rajasthan, and Non-Resident Fellow, Institute of South Asian Studies, National University of Singapore

When leaders make foreign policy decisions, each may appear reasonable in isolation. However, their cumulative impact can be strikingly different from what was originally intended. As Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian invited Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the funeral of former Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, India's deepening engagement with Israel perhaps falls into that category. What was once a mutually beneficial partnership between New Delhi and Tel Aviv seems to have become more of a habit than the product of serious strategic deliberation. Yet, sound policy cannot be guided by the momentum of habit, for habit and strategy often pull in opposite directions.

A reconfigured region

For one thing, it is important to acknowledge the gains from the partnership between India and Israel. India has received considerable military technology and know-how from Israel, as well as expertise in intelligence gathering derived from their extensive counter-insurgency experience. However, the more important question is not only what this relationship provides today, but also what it forecloses over time. Judged on those terms, the picture is not particularly encouraging.

West Asia has been undergoing one of its most intense geopolitical reconfigurations in years, and this one is different in scale. For the past decade, the region's regional arithmetic has rested on the assumption that Iran was a wounded, sanctions-strangled actor whose reach could be curtailed and ambitions contained. That assumption has now been tested and found wanting. American and Israeli military strikes on Iranian facilities have not produced the strategic calm that Tel Aviv had hoped for at the outset of this costly campaign. Iran responded with retaliatory missile and drone salvoes and, more importantly, demonstrated that any blockade of the Strait of Hormuz could not be easily overcome by the rhetoric of carrier groups. Once again, the geography of energy has become the geography of coercion. The terms of the final agreement quietly confirm that Iran was not broken.

The last three months have made it clear that the United States-Iran confrontation is not a distant geopolitical contest for New Delhi. It has had a direct impact on India's economy. Most of India's oil imports pass through routes vulnerable to any prolonged conflict in the Gulf. Whenever the Strait of Hormuz becomes a flashpoint, the consequences are felt directly in Indian households. It is here that the strategic canvas becomes more complicated, with every diplomatic choice carrying economic consequences. Strategic flexibility requires shunning comfortable alignments.

Many strategic analysts have long believed that Washington's policy towards Israel is fixed and unchanging – a constant around which all regional policy revolves. That assumption now needs to be revised. The public differences between Washington and Tel Aviv, reflected in U.S. President Donald Trump's frequent outbursts against Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, are no mere diplomatic squall. They appear to be genuine, notwithstanding Mr. Trump's well-known idiosyncrasies, because Washington's strategic calculus in West Asia has changed faster than expected.

The U.S. urgently needs off-ramps, while Mr. Netanyahu, whose political survival is bound up with escalation, has little interest in de-escalation without achieving his maximalist objectives. The friction becomes evident when the patron and the client are at odds, and the once-blank cheque starts to float.

Iran cannot be ignored

Thus, the perception of a shift towards Israel, reflected in Mr. Modi's unexpected visit to Tel Aviv (February 25-26, 2026) just before the U.S. and Israel launched their coordinated attack on Iran (February 28, 2026), becomes riskier when it is made more explicit, as it could place India on the wrong side of a regional reconfiguration that neither Israel nor any third party can control. While Mr. Modi's personal absence from Ayatollah Ali Khamenei's funeral is unsurprising, the choice of India's representatives is itself a deliberate signal. Pairing Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita with Bihar Governor Lt. Gen. Syed Ata Hasnain (retired) – himself a soldier-scholar shaped by counter-insurgency experience – may be read as a calibrated posture of political reassurance, while also subtly reflecting India's religious pluralism.

In other words, it reflects a posture that has internalised the war's central lessons without yet being willing to say aloud that Tehran's coercive capacity, demonstrated through the Strait of Hormuz and the missile exchanges, cannot be managed through the optics of Tel Aviv alone. This choice conveys an important diplomatic message of reassurance to Iran, which has demonstrated that it remains a regional heavyweight.

Moreover, Iran is a civilisational state with deep-rooted political and ideological networks across Iraq, Lebanon, Syria, and Yemen, as well as the proven capacity to generate economic pressure that can bypass conventional military deterrence.

A nation that can dictate ceasefire terms to Mr. Trump after absorbing punitive strikes from the U.S. and Israel is not a nation that can be casually discounted. China also appears poised to expand its strategic and economic footprint in Iran, making it imperative for India to exercise greater caution. Greater alignment with Israel risks pushing Tehran further into the China-Pakistan strategic embrace.

There is also the matter of Europe, an underutilised and undervalued element in India's economic planning. India must recognise that Europe's political landscape has turned against Israel's actions in Gaza and Lebanon in ways, and at a pace, that would have been unimaginable two years ago.

More than sentiment, electoral arithmetic is at work. And electoral arithmetic often shapes trade policy and, eventually, the tone of bilateral negotiations. India's status-seeking desire to be seen as a responsible international actor, rather than merely a vast market, and its economic ambitions in Europe – including the operationalisation of the India-European Union Free Trade Agreement – may come under closer scrutiny in the context of its West Asia policy than New Delhi anticipates.

What is unusual about the present moment is that India has no option but to act strategically, independently, and decisively. It has leverage because it has maintained good relations with many Arab Gulf states, from which millions of Indian workers send remittances home. Although Saudi Arabia may once again have found tactical reasons to accommodate Rawalpindi (Pakistan), India's relationship with the United Arab Emirates has grown even stronger.

New Delhi's historical ties with Tehran, though constrained by shifting regional dynamics, have not been completely severed. More fundamentally, India's sheer size combined with its geostrategic attributes makes it an indispensable stakeholder in any emerging regional order. What India needs now is the political will to wield its leverage effectively in pursuit of clearly defined national objectives.

Beyond binary choices

India needs a sufficiently ambitious strategic imagination. But that does not mean choosing between Israel and Iran, for that would be far too simplistic, and history rarely rewards such simplifications. Herein lies the distinction between an adaptive, alignment-driven foreign policy – the kind that follows and adapts to alignments forged by others – and an architectonic foreign policy, which seeks to shape its own strategic environment.

For a country that claims to be 'Vishwabandhu', it is important to recognise that the credibility of such a claim will be tested in moments such as these, when the world is watching India's words and actions. New Delhi's most valuable strategic asset in the coming multipolar decade is its authentic voice as a champion of the Global South, and every visible alignment with Israel in a conflict in which the Global South overwhelmingly sympathises with the Palestinians risks putting that precious capital in jeopardy. The defence technologies provided by Tel Aviv are undeniably valuable. But the strategic price of appearing aligned in a conflict that has reshaped West Asia is no less real.

A changing West Asia demands strategic imagination, flexibility, and diplomatic balance from India

Reimagining sovereign AI for India's strategic future

Vivan Sharan

Partner, Koan Advisory

Vedika Pandey

Manager, Koan Advisory

The United States government recently directed American Artificial Intelligence (AI) behemoth Anthropic to suspend access to its most advanced Fable 5 and Mythos 5 models for foreign nationals on national security grounds. A U.S. Presidential order also creates a voluntary mechanism for the U.S. federal government to access such models up to 30 days before trusted partners can. The Trump administration is simultaneously considering equity stakes in leading AI companies, ostensibly to redistribute the supernormal profits expected from technological advances.

These policy shifts are the latest and most dramatic in a series of sovereign actions demonstrating that governments are increasingly shaping AI policy around national advantage. Europe is moving away from its "regulate first, ask questions later" approach by investing in AI compute and promoting "Buy European" public procurement. Meanwhile, in keeping with President Javier Milei's swashbuckling style, even Argentina aims to attract AI investment by offering a regulatory safe harbour.

Navigating AI geopolitics

Aggressive AI policy is the new normal. As a large IT services economy that does not have its own frontier AI systems – those requiring upwards of ten septillion floating-point operations to train – India must review global developments and articulate a coherent policy response that allows it to benefit from frontier technology without letting its economic capabilities depend on policy decisions made elsewhere.

India's IT and app companies are well positioned to scale the everyday use of AI, raising domestic productivity and competitiveness. But rapid diffusion and model dependence pull in opposite directions: using foreign AI models today is the only way to build the economic surpluses needed to depend on them less in the future. Businesses must use the best AI available to outcompete rivals. They cannot, however, manage the geopolitical risks that accompany dependence on those technologies. This is where public policy must step in. India's discourse is stuck in a false binary between globalisation and industrial policy. India's industries must benefit from both at the same time.

The lesson is already visible in another strategic industry: Indian pharma is deeply dependent on ingredients from China, and at the same time, navigates wavering policy regimes for market access in the U.S. A Production-Linked Incentive promotes domestic manufacturing of bulk drugs but NITI Aayog's latest assessment finds that India still sources 65% of critical ingredients from China. Industrial policies can create footholds, not instant resilience.

Building strategic AI linkages

Frontier AI presents the same strategic dilemma, but on a much larger scale. India's spends 0.6% of GDP on research and development, and the private sector accounts for a third of this. OpenAI alone projects its compute spending at $50 billion this year, over six times India's annual private R&D spend. The implication is straightforward.

India cannot outspend frontier AI investment, so it must instead deepen its backward linkages to frontier AI through government action while strengthening its forward linkages to global markets for its products and services. This starts with a whole-of-government approach, in which ministries such as external affairs coordinate closely with commerce and it, and perhaps even defence, energy, and telecom, to better serve the technology industry.

Coordination alone, however, is insufficient. Firms can manage commercial risk through contracts and diversified supply chains. They cannot insure themselves against geopolitical risk or concentrated technological dependence; that is the sovereign's role. Like export credit and hybrid-annuity infrastructure models, the government should help underwrite risks that private firms cannot efficiently bear alone. Export credit recognises that firms cannot shoulder geopolitical risks on their own and insures them against disruption. Hybrid-annuity contracts do the same for long-gestation infrastructure by having the state fund part of a project and make fixed payments over time, rather than leaving private capital to bear the full risk.

Industry must step up

And while the government can create the conditions for success, competitiveness must ultimately come from firms themselves. For its part, the Indian tech ecosystem needs to pay attention to quality and innovation that makes services and products valuable to the world.

There is less room for complacency than India's technology industry often assumes. The Philippines generates $40 billion in IT exports –already nearly a sixth of India's IT exports – and is growing faster than the global industry.

Similarly, Indian app companies have barely made a dent abroad. No Indian app features among the top 10 by downloads, in-app purchase revenue, or monthly active users. This calls for greater ambition from the industry itself.

Indian technology also needs a more coherent strategic voice. Incumbent IT firms remain preoccupied with visas and market access, while start-ups are consumed by regulatory frictions and fundraising. Yet, both ultimately share the same interest: ensuring that India remains deeply connected to the world's leading AI ecosystems while steadily building greater domestic capability.

The real contest in AI is not simply over who builds the best models. It is about who captures the economic and strategic advantages they create. India's objective should be clear: remain deeply integrated with global AI ecosystems while steadily reducing the strategic vulnerabilities that such integration creates.

India must leverage global AI while reducing strategic technological dependence over time

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Food safety

The Data Point column (June 30), which has highlighted a serious issue that is often ignored — food poisoning cases and food safety — is timely. The mushrooming of food outlets and the proliferation of street food pose a major challenge to food safety. The reported staff shortage of 30% to 40% in the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India reflects gross neglect of a critical area of public health. The statistical data effectively underscore the gravity of the problem.

Balasubramaniam Pavani,
Secunderabad

KV, a disturbing shift

As a former student and the parent of two Kendriya Vidyalaya (KV) students, I am disheartened by the institution's decline. A KV principal recently remarked during a parent-teacher meeting that the school had become a testing ground for the NCERT. Parents are frequently asked to endorse government initiatives, while children are made to recite oaths or participate in online surveys through class WhatsApp groups. Students are also being burdened with new online examinations and are expected to complete the syllabus for the next academic year before the summer break, in addition to their holiday homework. Some teachers promote YouTube channels featuring videos of students without obtaining parental consent. Equally troubling are regressive messages in the classroom. I find this growing politicisation, academic burden, and the reinforcement of gender stereotypes undermining the quality, neutrality, and values that KV once represented.

Dr. Ragi Chandran,
Chennai

Letters emailed to letters@thehindu.co.in must carry the postal address.

Need for inclusive, integrated climate action

Aruna Bhattacharya

Medical anthropologist and a public health expert specialising in urban health systems

As Karnataka welcomes a new Minister for Urban Development, there is an opportunity to rethink what makes a city healthy, resilient, and equitable. Much of the public conversation around urban development tends to focus on infrastructure and technology-driven solutions. Yet the true measure of a city's development lies elsewhere: in how its systems support the health and well-being of the people who keep the city functioning.

Among these are sanitation workers, street sweepers, waste collectors, drain cleaners, and others who perform essential services that sustain urban life. Their experiences offer a powerful lens through which to understand urban systems, particularly in an era of climate change.

Climate change is often discussed in terms of rising temperatures and environmental degradation. But these impacts are not experienced equally. They are filtered through housing conditions, employment arrangements, access to healthcare, social protection, and public infrastructure. In other words, climate change is also an urban governance challenge.

Unequal experiences

Across Karnataka's cities, sanitation workers spend long hours outdoors. As heatwaves become more frequent and intense, exposure to extreme heat is no longer an occasional occupational hazard but a routine reality. Heat stress can lead to dehydration, exhaustion, kidney-related illnesses, cardiovascular complications, and reduced productivity.

Moreover, a significant proportion of sanitation workers live in informal settlements where access to basic services remains uneven. Overcrowded housing, poor ventilation, inadequate water supply, and limited green cover amplify exposure to heat. During periods of extreme weather, residents may struggle to secure sufficient water for drinking and cooling, while inadequate drainage can increase vulnerability to flooding and disease outbreaks. The result is a double burden: workers are exposed to climate risks both at work and at home.

What does this say about the health of our cities? Traditionally, public health indicators focus on disease prevalence, mortality, or service coverage. While these remain important, they often fail to capture how urban systems function in practice. A city may have healthcare facilities, social welfare schemes, and climate action plans on paper, but whether these systems reach those who need them the most is another matter. Sanitation workers provide a useful barometer of urban system performance because they sit at the intersection of multiple systems. Their experiences are shaped by municipal governance, labour arrangements, housing conditions, environmental infrastructure, healthcare access, and social protection policies.

Consider healthcare access. Many Indian cities have expanded urban primary healthcare services in recent years. Yet questions remain about whether these services are accessible to workers whose health needs are closely linked to occupational exposures. Are primary health centres equipped to respond to heat-related illnesses? Are workers aware of available services?

Similarly, social protection schemes often exist but remain difficult to navigate. Administrative barriers, lack of awareness, documentation requirements, and fragmented institutional responsibilities can prevent workers from receiving the benefits intended for them.

These gaps become even more significant as climate change intensifies. Cities across India, including Bengaluru, are beginning to develop climate action plans aimed at reducing emissions and building resilience. However, climate adaptation cannot be limited to infrastructure investments alone. It must also address human vulnerability. This requires a shift in how urban development is understood. Health must move from being viewed as the responsibility of the health department alone to becoming a central consideration across urban planning, housing, and labour policies.

> Climate and heat considerations should be integrated into occupational health policies for municipal and contracted sanitation workers

A climate-centric urban policy

For Karnataka's cities, several priorities emerge. First, climate and heat considerations should be integrated into occupational health policies for municipal and contracted sanitation workers. Heat action plans need to include worker protections such as access to drinking water, shaded rest areas, modified work schedules during extreme heat, and routine health monitoring. Second, investment in informal settlements is paramount. Improved housing, water access, drainage, and green infrastructure directly influence health outcomes and reduce vulnerability to climate-related risks.

Third, urban primary healthcare systems should be strengthened to respond to climate-sensitive health conditions. This includes training healthcare providers, and ensuring services are accessible to workers. Fourth, cities need better data; evidence on occupational heat exposure, health-seeking behaviour, healthcare costs, and long-term health impacts among urban workers remains limited. Finally, urban governance must become more integrated. Climate resilience, public health, and labour welfare are often treated as separate policy domains. Yet for sanitation workers, such issues are inseparable.

As Karnataka charts its urban future, sanitation workers offer an important reminder: cities are not defined by their infrastructure alone. They are defined by the systems that enable people to live, work, and remain healthy.

Damocles' sword over Kerala's fortunes

The State needs to take steps to increase revenue within its fiscal framework

STATE OF PLAY

Vinod Thomas
C. Veeramani

The high debt of the Kerala government hangs like the sword of Damocles over the State's ability to borrow and invest. The State's fiscal and revenue deficits are above the median for the major 28 States. While the 2026 budget envisages growth-led fiscal repair, the debt crisis requires an immediate solution, since the debt is mainly incurred to finance current expenditure rather than capital investment.

The financial stress is compounded by the autonomous operations of the Kerala Infrastructure Investment Fund Board (KIIFB) and Public Sector Enterprises (PSEs). The resulting losses are glaring. With revenue deficit grants from the Union Government now being cut, covering these losses becomes all the more critical. The massive liabilities, expenditures, and interest payments tie the hands of the government, as a status report to the State Assembly details. Strikingly, the government's capital expenditure is a mere 1.3% of its Gross State Domestic Product, one of the lowest among Indian States.

Immediate results

The government needs to improve the effectiveness of the revenue-expenditure framework urgently. A bigger drawdown of Centrally Sponsored Scheme funds, whose utilisation has been chronically below entitlement, offers immediate financing without incurring new debt. The Special Assistance to States for Capital Investment scheme, which are 50-year interest-free capital loans from the

Centre, remains underused. The 16th Finance Commission's urban local body grants offer another avenue, provided municipalities collect taxes that back those transfers.

Moreover, the buoyancy of tax revenue can be vastly improved. Economic growth was almost 10% last year, but taxes grew by only 3%, signifying a tax buoyancy of only 0.3. The State must confront massive revenue arrears and slash off-budget borrowings, as flagged by the Comptroller and Auditor General. Kerala can also strengthen tax compliance by overhauling its Goods and Services Tax (GST) administration, increasing GST registrations, improving targeted tax information systems, and ensuring timely audits. GST revenue growth was 3% in 2025-26 compared with 6% nationally.

The government could also explore fee increases across departments to generate more non-tax revenue. Priority sectors would be port management, building permits, mining levies and forest produce. There could be higher user charges for high-end government services such as specialised skill training.

Long-term improvements

Beyond quick fixes, a fiscal reform agenda is in order, as a report from Sacred Heart college outlines. Dealing with the losses of the PSEs should have priority. An independent review is needed for KIIFB-funded projects. It is also high time to implement tested models of private participation in PSEs.

A second area would be sources of finance. As in Indonesia, a professionally governed State intermediary can help attract capital. Private investment can be made less risky by announcing transparency and predictability in policy. The government may lease, and not sell, land for industrial zones and IT parks. Urban local bodies could access capital markets through bonds backed by property tax, user charges, and land lease income. Kerala diaspora bonds could be RBI-compliant instruments through which NRIs can invest in projects.

Third, the expenditure side of the ledger needs a better look. For every ₹100 in revenue, ₹77 are pre-committed to salaries, pensions, and interest payments, cutting the State's governing capacity. There is good rationale to embark on pension reform.

Fourth, errors of commission should be averted. Encouraging mining in fragile hilltops to earn revenue would be self-defeating. Similarly, allowing private participation in sand mining would be destructive as the damage wreaked by environmental destruction overwhelms any taxes gained. While it is tempting to cut welfare programs in the name of fiscal austerity, it would be a mistake to reverse the schemes that give safety nets to the extremely poor.

Kerala's development potential is well-known, but the fiscal crisis is a roadblock to realising it. The State must immediately enact steps to increase revenue within the existing fiscal framework.

Vinod Thomas is a former senior vice president of the World Bank; C. Veeramani is Director of CDS, Thiruvananthapuram.

UN report captures Israel's crimes against Palestinian children

The children killed in the Gaza Strip by Israeli security forces represent around 2% of the region's entire child population

DATA POINT

Sambavi Parthasarathy

What began as a response to the terrorist attack by Hamas on October 7, 2023, has prolonged into a nearly three-year-long aggression resulting in over 73,000 deaths and about 1.8 lakh injuries in the Gaza Strip. Children accounted for 30% of these casualties and 26% of the injuries. Israel's actions have been termed a genocide by the UN Independent International Commission of Inquiry in its September 2025 report.

Though Israel has denied such allegations, the Commission's new report released on June 18, 2026 has offered further evidence of Israel's violence. The report observed that several acts of the Israeli forces amounted to "war crime of wilful killing and the crime against humanity of extermination." The Commission's inquiry conducted in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel examined violations and crimes affecting Palestinian children. It noted how Israeli soldiers mocked and weaponised symbols of childhood in Gaza. The report has captured various cases, showing how a systematic and deliberate infliction of harm has been imposed on the children in Gaza. The report highlighted that the children killed in Gaza represented around 2% of its entire child population. As per the report, the conditions of life imposed by Israel in Gaza has deprived the children access to schools and food, resulting in malnourishment among children.

The Commission concluded that Israel has deliberately carried out acts inflicting bodily harm on thousands of children. It stated that much of this harm was not incidental but "intended to destroy the existence of Palestinians in Gaza". To read more about the report, please see this link newsth.live/justiceinterview

Acts of Genocide

The data was sourced from UN's ' "The essence of childhood has been destroyed": Israel's deliberate targeting of Palestinian children in the Occupied Palestinian Territory since 7 October 2023'

Table 1: The nearly three-year-long aggression by Israel on Palestine has resulted in mounting casualties. About one-third of those killed were children

Children killed and injured (as of February 2026)		
Killed	21,289	30% of those killed
Injured	44,500	26% of those injured

Children who were killed under the age of five	
Under 5	5,031
Under age 1	1,029
Newborns	420

Additionally, 5,160 children are estimated to be buried under the rubble

Table 2: Indicators related to amputation and disability among children in Gaza

Gaza now has the highest concentration of child amputees per capita in the world	
One or more limbs amputated (Oct-Dec 2023)	Over 1,000
Children disabled during the conflict (as of September 2025)	21,000
Hearing loss (as of June 2025)	10,000
Severe hearing loss (as of June 2025)	5,000

Table 3: Thousands of children have been orphaned or separated since October 7, 2023

Orphaned and unaccompanied children	
Children who lost one or both parents (Oct 7 2023 to Oct 7 2025)	58,554
Unaccompanied or separated (Between Oct 7 2023 – Oct 7 2025)	17,000 & 18,000
Families led by a child under 16 (as of June 2024)	One in 4
Families reportedly caring for non-biological children (as of Jun 2024)	>40%

Table 4: Select indicators that show the impact of the conditions of life imposed by Israel in Gaza

Indicators related to health	
Children aged 6-59 months admitted for malnutrition treatment	>3,200
Children identified with acute malnutrition (by 2025)	95,000
Children under five at risk of malnutrition (as of Dec 2025)	~ 320,000
Confirmed child deaths due to malnutrition (as of Oct 2025)	151
Children aged 6–59 months expected to suffer acute malnutrition	~101,000
Severe cases of malnutrition	31,000
Decline in birth rate compared to 2022	41%
Percentage increase in miscarriage rates since October 2023	300%
Share of surveyed children who felt their death was imminent	96%
Children needing mental health and psychological support	~all of 1.2 mn
Indicators related to education	
School-aged children without sustained access to formal education	637,475
Children under five at risk of severe developmental delays (as of Jan 2026)	Over 335,000
School buildings requiring full reconstruction or major rehabilitation	~93%

The UN identifies hate speech as a "precursor to atrocity crimes, including genocide," in cases like the 1994 genocide against the Tutsis in Rwanda. The phrases used by a section of political leaders and members of security forces in Israel, shown in the graphic below, reveals how their language stereotypes Palestinians to normalise brutal violence against even children

Hanoch Milwidsky, Knesset member, February 21, 2024: ***"You will die, your children will die, your grandchildren will die - there won't be a Palestinian state, there won't be"***

Nissim Vaturi, Deputy Speaker of the Knesset, Oct 9, 2023: ***"Erase Gaza. Nothing else will satisfy us... Do not leave a child there, expel all the remaining ones at the end, so that they will not have a resurrection"***

Nissim Vaturi, January 30, 2025: ***"Gaza is full of terrorists and every child born there is already a terrorist, from the moment of his birth"***

Merav Ben-Ari, Knesset member, October 16, 2023: ***"There is no equality with Gazan children [compared with Israeli children]. Children in Gaza brought [their own killing] on themselves"***

Moshe Feiglin, former Knesset member, May 2025: ***"Every child, every baby in Gaza is an enemy... We need to conquer Gaza and colonise it and not leave a single Gazan child there. There is no other victory"***

An Israeli soldier, in a video he posted: ***"In my childhood, I've always dreamed of blowing up my school. Today I'm blowing up a school. Wow!"***

Decisions are made by the ***"appreciation of the commander on the ground."*** – Israeli soldiers, as captured in Breaking Ranks: Inside Israel's War documentary by ITVX. They stated they ***do not worry about international law*** because they believe they will be shielded from prosecution

On shooting Palestinians: ***"The first shot is directly to the head."*** – an Israeli soldier, in the same documentary

On seeing children shot: ***"We saw two teenagers pushing some sort of cart and the first shot was directly to head."*** – an Israeli soldier, in the same documentary

"Obviously, fingers are light on the trigger." – an Israeli soldier, at a Gaza Humanitarian Foundation (GHF) aid site

On shooting children at aid sites: ***"Around 1 AM, there were a couple of teenagers just sprinting away, two [Israeli] soldiers ran after them, took two shots and the two kids just snapped backwards and dropped."*** – a GHF truck driver, who spent seven weeks in Gaza, recounted

"For all those asking why there is no education in Gaza, oops a missile fell on you, that sucks, too bad. That is how you will not be engineers anymore." – an Israeli soldier, in a video posted to social media

On shooting a 10-year-old boy (January 28, 2025): ***"I am the one who shot your son. God willing, he will die."*** – an Israeli soldier, said to the boy's father. The boy died.

All these quotes have been reproduced as documented in the UN Commission's report

FROM THE ARCHIVES
The Hindu.

FIFTY YEARS AGO JULY 1, 1976

Thanjavur Palace to be preserved

Madras, June 30: The Thanjavur Palace built by the Nayak Rulers in 16-17 century AD, standing on a 50-acre site, will be preserved as an archaeological monument. Necessary repairs will be carried out under a phased programme to protect this historical structure. The renovation will be undertaken by the State Department of Archaeology.

The 90-feet high structure – the Bell Tower with a flight of steps to reach the top will be restored to its original strength this year.

The Palace, in the middle of the town, was maintained by the Public Works Department till 1972 when it reported that the centuries-old building was in a very weak condition which did not permit carrying out major repairs or improvement. The PWD also felt that to take up the repair work at great heights was a hazardous process. The State Department of Archaeology, which has already taken up the responsibility of maintaining the Tirumalai Nayak Mahal in Madurai will now preserve this Palace.

The Maharatta kings who ruled Thanjavur after the Nayaks, evinced very keen interest in the upkeep of the palace and spent large amounts on its improvement.

Part of this mammoth structure now houses the Art Gallery and the world-renowned Saraswathi Mahal Library. Valuable portrait-paintings of the Maharatta rulers adorn the inner walls of the Palace but these have suffered heavy damage in the hands of unscrupulous visitors. The Department will preserve them too.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO JULY 1, 1926

British claims against Iraq government

Cairo, July 1: In the Commons, replying to Com. Kenworthy, with regard to the British renunciation of the claims against Iraq Government for the repayment of 94 lakhs in respect of public works, Major Ormsby Gore said the ownership of the Iraq railways built at the British cost still rests with the British Government. The question of their future was still being discussed as also the liquidation of certain claims on account of irrigation and other stores.

From Page One

Rainfall will be below normal in July: IMD

The area under Kharif crop has declined 22% compared to the same time last year, according to the Agriculture Ministry, with farmers likely delaying the sowing of paddy until more substantial showers. Key water reservoirs in India, as of the latest figures available from the Central Water Commission on June 25, have about 25% less water than they had in June 2025. But when averaged over 10 years, is 5% more than usual for June. The monsoon deficits assume significance in a year that forecasters globally have warned will likely be a 'Super El Niño' year.

This means an unusually hot Central Pacific through this peak period will only surface in winter - much after the southwest monsoon officially winds up by September-end. Six in 10 El Niño years translate to weak southwest monsoon rainfall.

Changing sea surface temperatures

Reputed weather models from the Australian Bureau of Meteorology have suggested that the Indian Ocean Dipole, or IOD, a climate pattern marked by changing sea surface temperatures between the western and eastern Indian Ocean that can strengthen or weaken India's monsoon depending on its phase, could develop in the second half of the monsoon (August and September) and, in theory, ameliorate the El Niño's impact.

"Our own models and several other reputable models show that the dipole will be 'neutral,' [meaning unhelpful]. The El Niño is like the big brother, and the IOD cannot fully compensate," said Mrutyunjay Mohapatra. The 1997-98 El Niño year - one of the strongest in meteorological history - saw 2% more rain than was usual in India due to a favourable phase of the IOD. "That has happened only once ever," the IMD D-G said.

'Gulf remittances rose despite West Asia crisis'

The Ministry report said that this resilience comes about because remittances are flows of funds driven by employment conditions and wage levels in host economies rather than by financial market signals or investor sentiments. That is, remittances from the Gulf countries are more anchored to the working conditions there than the stock market performance in India.

In fact, an analysis in the report found that remittances in the short run may even run opposite to what a shock would generally result in.

That is, migrants in other countries front-load precautionary transfers back home during periods of uncertainty and stress.

The report, however, stopped short of saying whether this is what was playing out in the case of remittances to India.

However, this also leads to what could be a risk in the medium and long-term if the war-like conditions in the region do not abate.

"The principal risk to remittance inflows, however, arises from a sustained deterioration in labour market conditions in host economies that affects migrant employment and earnings," the report said.

"Consequently, while short-term external shocks may have limited effects on remittance inflows, developments in overseas labour markets warrant close monitoring in the current context."

Criminal justice system's digital push aims for a full roll-out by next year

However, data maintained by the NCRB shows only 46% of FIRs were digitally transmitted to courts; out of 36 States, U.T.s, Haryana, Goa, Assam, Punjab, and Chandigarh have implemented all parameters, while 23 States are above national average

Vijaita Singh
NEW DELHI

From January 1, 2027, procedures related to all investigations and trials under the new criminal laws will be recorded digitally, a senior Home Ministry official said on Tuesday.

The official said the nationwide rollout of the Interoperable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) - which integrates police, courts, prisons, forensics, and prosecution on a single platform - is expected to be completed soon, with emphasis on end-to-end digital workflow.

The data will be stored in the government-owned cloud platform MeghRaj.

However, data maintained by the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) showed that the first information report (FIR) consumption by courts, the process through which cases are electronically transmitted to and received by court systems, was at 46%, less than half of the cases registered.

The three new criminal laws, Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), Bharatiya Sakshya Sanhita (BSS), and Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS), replaced the Indian Penal Code (1860), Indian Evidence Act (1872), and the Code of Criminal Procedure (1898), respectively.

These came into effect on July 1, 2024, and in the past two years, 74.66 lakh FIRs have been filed under BNS. Since these laws require upgraded infrastructure and forensic capabilities, States and Union Territories have been given five years to implement all the pillars of criminal justice system.

As many as 63,572 zero-FIRs, those which can be filed irrespective of jurisdiction, have been registered under the BNSS. Though the provision existed earlier, the BNSS gave it a statutory backing. The official said that around 13,000 zero-FIRs were filed in different districts of the same State and fell under the category of "intra-State transfers".

The Crime and Criminal Tracking and Network Systems, the platform which is used to file FIRs across 16,000 police stations in the country, has an option to register cases in 23 languages and the *Bhashini App* can translate the zero-FIR to the language used in the jurisdiction concerned, the official said.

"A police person cannot turn away a complainant from filing a zero-FIR. Once registered, the case is transferred to the police station concerned and they can decide further upon inquiry, if they want to close the case or pursue the investigation," said the official. Out of 36 States and Union Territories, Haryana, Goa, Assam, Punjab, and Chandigarh have implemented all the parameters of the justice system, while 23 States and U.T.s, including Delhi, are above the national average. The official said due to connectivity issues, some of the northeastern States were lagging behind.

More forensic labs

As the new laws make forensic examination of crime scenes mandatory in cases punishable by seven years or more, as many as 25 new forensic laboratories (FSL) were added in the past two years, taking the total number of laboratories from 129 in 2023 to 154 in 2025.

While in 2023, the forensic labs received 8,44,589 cases for examination, out of which 4,64,879 were pending, in 2025, the cases received were 11,11,798 with 3,90,786 pending. More than 700 mobile forensic units have been deployed so far.

After the new laws came into effect, the national implementation score increased from 46.47% (January 2025) to 70.06% (June 2026). The 60-day chargesheet compliance rose from about 51% to 67%, and the 90-day compliance rose from about 40% to 61%. Additionally, 46.5 lakh digital evidence (Sakshya) IDs were generated, and 56.74 lakh e-summons were served.

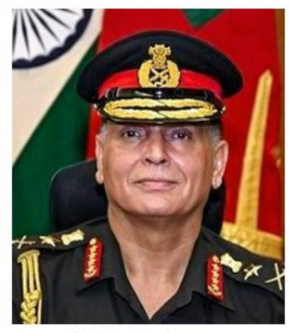
As on May 31, 2026, there are 37.68 crore police records, which include 9.9 crore FIRs and 7.64 crore chargesheets in the database, which can be accessed by police and investigating agencies.

The Ministry official said that improving Internet connectivity, especially in remote and northeastern parts of the country, standardising processes across States and U.T.s, ensuring full interoperability among all criminal justice platforms and training of personnel were some of the challenges ahead.

Digital drive

The digitisation aims to make way for faster, more transparent, and integrated justice delivery nationwide

- All investigations and trials under BNS, BSS, and BNSS will be digitally recorded and stored on the **MeghRaj** government cloud platform
- The **Interoperable Criminal Justice System** (ICJS) connects police, courts, prisons, prosecution, and forensic laboratories on a single platform
- Over **63,500** zero-FIRs have been registered, allowing complaints to be filed regardless of jurisdiction and transferred electronically
- 25 new **forensic laboratories** have been added in two years to support mandatory forensic investigations
- Implementation has risen from 46.47% to 70.06% since January 2025, with improved **chargesheet compliance** and millions of digital evidence IDs and e-summons generated



General Dhiraj Seth

General Dhiraj Seth takes over as Army chief

Saurabh Trivedi
NEW DELHI

General Dhiraj Seth on Tuesday assumed charge as the 31st Chief of the Army Staff (COAS), succeeding General Upendra Dwivedi, who retired after more than four decades of distinguished service to the nation.

General Seth's command assignments include an armoured regiment in the desert sector, an armoured brigade in the Western Theatre, and a counter-insurgency force in Jammu and Kashmir.

At the Army Headquarters, General Seth held several key appointments in strategic planning and capability development, where he contributed to the Army's modernisation road map, force restructuring, and the integration of emerging technologies into future warfighting capabilities.

Amit Shah launches new FCRA portal and e-OCI card

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Union Home Minister Amit Shah on Tuesday launched a new portal that, apart from reducing paperwork, will speed up clearance of applications for registration under the Foreign Contribution (Regulation) Act, 2010 (FCRA) and also enable real-time monitoring of foreign fund inflows.

Mr. Shah launched the FCRA 2.0 Portal and an e-Overseas Citizen of India (e-OCI) card initiative in the presence of Union Home Secretary Govind Mohan, Foreign Secretary Vikram Misri, Director of Intelligence Bureau (IB) Mahesh Dixit, and several other senior officials.

At present, around 14,500 organisations with FCRA registrations are working across the country. FCRA registration is mandatory for an NGO or association to receive foreign donations. The Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) said that, under the Act, approximately 15,000 to 20,000 applications are made each year and about 17,000 annual returns are filed. The portal, hosted on the National Government Cloud (MeghRaj), includes features such as process re-engineering, an integrated dashboard, Aadhaar-based authentication, e-Sign facility, and OCR-based document analysis.

Amit Shah launches FCRA 2.0 Portal in New Delhi. IB chief Mahesh Dixit (right) and Home Secretary Govind Mohan are seen. ANI

Unlike the old website, the new FCRA portal has removed the section on year-wise fresh registrations under the Act. In 2022, the MHA had dropped sections listing NGOs whose registrations were cancelled and the page detailing the annual returns filed by each NGO.

The Union Home Minister said the Centre's policy is to ensure transparency and embrace technology so that governance becomes easy for honest people and a strict surveillance system is put in place for wrongdoers, making the country increasingly secure. He said that, prior to 2014, the FCRA system was entangled in files and procedures and was beyond proper oversight, which is critical for both national security and development. In the past few years, there had been a significant increase in the number of applications and the flow of foreign donations, he added.

The new portal would lead to effective monitoring of foreign contributions made with wrong intentions and end physical submission of documents, Mr. Shahe said.

He said the e-OCI card would bring great convenience to more than 50 lakh OCI cardholders. After 20 years, when a new passport is issued, there will be no need to re-issue the OCI booklet, and the cardholder's registration number will also become unique, he said. The e-OCI card will eliminate the problem of loss or damage of the document, and cardholders will be able to carry out real-time verification themselves.

SC stays HC direction on ethanol allocation

Aaratrika Bhaumik
NEW DELHI

The Supreme Court on Tuesday ordered *status quo* on a Karnataka High Court direction requiring the reopening of the ethanol allocation process for the 2025-26 supply year.

A Bench comprising Justices M. M. Sundresh and Sheel Nagu was hearing a plea filed by state-owned Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (BPCL), which contended that reopening the allocation process would disrupt the implementation of the Centre's policy of achieving 20% ethanol blending in petrol, popularly known as E20 fuel.

In its order dated June 16, the High Court had directed the oil marketing companies (OMCs) – BPCL, Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd. (HPCL) and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (IOCL) – to consider a request by VINP Distilleries and Sugars for an enhanced ethanol allocation before the tender process was finalised.

What is Centre's new EPFO upgrade?

EXPLAINER

A. M. Jigeesh

The Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) recently sent a text message to its subscribers that it is undertaking a "planned database consolidation and upgradation of software applications".

As part of this transition, it said, member services such as claim submission and download of passbooks are temporarily unavailable from June 26 to July 1. As part of the Centralised IT-Enabled System (CITES) project, the EPFO's effort is to modernise its service delivery mechanism through automation and rule-based processing.

Designed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing, the project aims to improve operational efficiency. The EPFO is hopeful that the revised mechanism will make the services more transparent, and subscribers will receive seamless services.

Current services

The EPFO is facing several technical and procedural delays in member services, such as the submission of claims for deceased members and the presentation of life certificates for pensioners. At present, the EPFO has a decentralised system with separate databases in each field and regional office. The members are tied to one regional office.

CITES project aims to improve EPFO's operational efficiency with one national database.

In many cases, even retired beneficiaries had to go to the regional offices in jurisdictions where they had worked to submit claims or clear technical problems. Nominees of deceased members also had to approach the respective regional offices for pension or other claims. The operations are primarily done by more than 120 decentralised databases at present, with no central visibility. There have been complaints that the account operations are "employer-centric" as for the majority of the claims, authorisation of the employer was necessary.

CITES provides a single centralised system architecture with one national database. Now, any PF office can process a member's service request. Members or beneficiaries will now be able to approach any PF office across the country for the redress of their queries and for seeking clarifications. Most of the services, including KYC updates, can be done online using the new platform. The current Universal Account Number (UAN) and password created by the member can be used to access the new system. Functional from 2023, CITES has so far implemented several reforms in the EPFO system, including a centralised pension payment system.

Senior officials say the centralisation process included the migration of several lakh crore data records to the centralised system.

The process

The process started on June 26 and was to be completed by June 30. The EPFO expects a downtime, due to which the services will be affected. On logging in to the EPFO Member portal using the UAN and password, the members will have access to a unified digital interface. Members can view their membership details, provident fund balances, claim status, pensionable service records, and benefits availed in this interface. EPFO offices can process the claims and can raise queries electronically through the system. Members can respond to these queries online, leading to faster resolution, minimising physical visits to EPFO offices, and thus reducing claim rejections.

Benefits for members

For EPFO members, the centralised system allows them to see all their previous member IDs under the UAN linked with a single KYC (Aadhaar). The status of the PF accumulations, service records and requests will be displayed to the member. The new interface simplifies transfers, helps maintain an accurate service history, and enables faster settlements, according to the EPFO.

PM exhorts Secretaries to focus on self-reliance

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday exhorted the Secretaries of all Ministries and Departments to focus on ensuring tangible impact of government schemes on the lives of people and boost "*Aatmanirbharta*" (self reliance).

Nearly 80 Secretaries were present in the meeting, which comes amid talks of a Cabinet reshuffle. The meeting focused on the key themes of 'Ease of Doing Business' and 'Ease of Living' through deregulation and other reforms; and promoting self-reliance.

Mr. Modi stressed the importance of adopting a whole-of-government approach, asking the departments to work together rather than in isolation.

Emphasising the significance of integrated planning and coordination, he encouraged wider utilisation of the PM GatiShakti as an effective platform for inter-departmental decision-making.

PM speaks to Iranian President ahead of burial of Ali Khamenei

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday spoke with Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian as Iran plans to start a week-long period of mourning for the state burial of Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei. *The Hindu* had reported earlier that the Iranian President had invited Mr. Modi to travel to Tehran but Mr. Modi was unlikely to travel to the West Asian nation for the state funeral. India will be represented by a delegation led by Bihar Governor Lieutenant General Syed Ata Hasnain (retd.) and Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita.

Narendra Modi

During the phone call with the Iranian leader, Mr. Modi welcomed the understanding the country has reached with the U.S. that has brought a fragile peace in the Gulf region.

APPEAL

Mubhashir is 2 years old suffering from "B Cell - Acute Lymphoblastic Leukemia". He needs Chemotherapy and Radiation Therapy at Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai. The total expenditure is **Rs. 8,00,000/-**. His father works as a Driver. The family is very poor and cannot afford this huge cost. Please support him for the treatment. Donations sent by Ch/D.D. favouring **Meenakshi Mission Hospital & Research Centre, Madurai will be acknowledged.** The donations sent through Ch/D.D/NEFT Transfer & GOOGLE PAY (Canara Bank, Nungambakkam Branch, A/c No. 60182010063310, IFSC No: CNRB0016018) favouring **WOMEN'S WELFARE SYNDICATE** is exempted under 80G IT.

All correspondence is done through **WWS,** Regd Public Charitable Trust, **Flat No. GF 1, Corddel Apartments, O.No.13, N.No. 29, Pycrofts Garden Lane, Chennai-600006. Ph: 044-42137401/ 31523781/ 7338978027.**
E-mail ID: womenswelfaresyndicate@gmail.com.
Website: www.womenswelfaresyndicate.org

WWS

Monsoon Session likely to begin on July 20

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The Monsoon session of Parliament is likely to commence on July 20 and is expected to go on for three weeks, officials said on Tuesday. The Cabinet Committee on Parliamentary Affairs is yet to take a final decision.

Usually, the Monsoon and Winter sessions have 20 sittings and are spread over four weeks. But there have been precedents of shorter sessions.

The rebellion in the Trinamool Congress and Shiv Sena (UBT) will play out in the session.

A decision by Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla on the demands of 20 Trinamool and six Shiv Sena (UBT) MPs seeking recognition as separate groups is awaited.

In the Rajya Sabha, after newly elected and re-elected MPs took oath, the political numbers further tilted in favour of the ruling NDA.

The last session ended in disappointment for the government as a Constitution amendment bill to implement reservation for women in legislatures in 2029 and increase the number of seats of the Lok Sabha was defeated in the Lower House.

Ram Temple embezzlement an attack on faith: Congress

The party questions PM's silence on issue and accuses Centre, U.P. govt. of shielding senior Trust members; it calls for probe under supervision of SC judge and an independent audit of donations

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

> When the theft has indeed taken place inside the Ram Temple, what is the government trying to hide? The SIT report should be uploaded on a public website so that every citizen can know the truth
>
> **SUPRIYA SHRINATE**
> Congress spokesperson

Stepping up its attack over the alleged embezzlement of donations to the Ram Temple in Ayodhya, the Congress on Tuesday described the episode as a "*maha paap*" (cardinal sin).

The Opposition questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's silence on the issue, saying he must accept responsibility for the Trust that oversaw the temple after claiming credit for its construction and consecration.

Addressing a press conference, Congress spokesperson Supriya Shrinate said the alleged theft was "not merely a donation scam but an attack on the faith of over one billion Hindus". "This isn't just some donation theft or scam. This is a *maha paap*, an attack on the faith of Hindus all over the world," she said.

The BJP-led governments at the Centre and in Uttar Pradesh were attempting to shield senior functionaries of the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Kshetra Trust while action had been confined to lower-level employees, she alleged.

Demanding that the alleged irregularities be investigated under the supervision of a sitting judge of the Supreme Court, she argued that the Uttar Pradesh government could not conduct an impartial probe.

'Dissolve temple trust'

The Congress also demanded that the report of the Special Investigation Team (SIT) be made public, the trust be dissolved, first information reports be registered against its office-bearers, and an independent audit be conducted of all donations received since the trust's inception.

"When the theft has indeed taken place inside the Ram Temple, what is the government trying to hide? The SIT report should be uploaded on a public website so that every citizen can know the truth," Ms. Shrinate said, questioning the government's refusal to release the SIT report.

The CCTV footage available to investigators, reportedly covering around 40 days and documenting about 70 instances of theft, represented only a fraction of the alleged misappropriation, the Congress spokesperson alleged. "Who will account for the previous five-and-a-half years?" the Congress spokesperson asked.

Referring to reports that about ₹80 lakh had been recovered, Ms. Shrinate questioned where the remaining donations had gone. It was implausible that employees earning modest salaries could have orchestrated the alleged operation without the involvement of higher authorities, she alleged.

Standard operating procedures jointly framed by the Trust and the State Bank of India for handling donations had not been followed and complaints by whistle-blowers had been ignored, she said.

Targeting Mr. Modi, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said the Prime Minister's "silence" on the alleged "loot" amounted to "a direct assault on the religious faith of crores of people".

The Centre had constituted the trust without transparency, filled it with members of the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh, and kept it outside the purview of the Right to Information Act, he alleged.

Eight people have been arrested on the basis of the SIT's findings. The State government constituted the SIT after complaints of alleged misappropriation of temple donations.

Donation issue tests VHP's demand to free temples from government control

Ishita Mishra
NEW DELHI

The alleged embezzlement of donations at the Ram Temple in Ayodhya has emerged as an unexpected hurdle in the Vishwa Hindu Parishad (VHP)'s flagship campaign to free Hindu temples from government control.

Currently, the States that have legislation governing the management of Hindu temples include Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Odisha, and Maharashtra.

Himachal Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan also have laws that allow the government to exercise control over temples.

During a media interaction in the past, VHP's organising general secretary Milind Parande had said that between 20,000 and 50,000 temples were under government control in 11 States alone. Describing this as a "threat to Hindu society", the VHP launched a nationwide campaign in 2021 to free Hindu temples and religious institutions from government control. The organisation argued that offerings made by devotees should be used exclusively for religious and charitable purposes.

The case revolves around the alleged misappropriation of donations. FILE PHOTO

Over the past five years, the organisation made multiple attempts to persuade the Union government to take up the issue. A think tank comprising retired bureaucrats, judges, and lawyers was formed to prepare a draft legislation. The VHP also launched an outreach campaign to meet MPs from the ruling and Opposition parties to garner support for the proposal.

"With the donation row at the Ram Temple, a movement spearheaded by the VHP, the organisation's efforts on this front are likely to face a setback," a senior functionary said.

"The loss is not just of money. There is a loss of faith, a loss of moral standing, and a loss of honour and respect. Everything has suffered here," he said.

Another VHP functionary from Delhi acknowledged that the current situation had put the organisation's campaign under greater scrutiny.

"I won't say that our campaign will derail, but we may have to be prepared to answer some difficult questions," he said.

"People may ask questions about this, but if the matter is resolved in the right direction, faith will be restored," VHP's national spokesperson Vinod Bansal said.

VHP president Alok Kumar, however, dismissed suggestions that the incident would disrupt the organisation's campaign. "There are many temples run by private trusts that are functioning very well across the country," he told *The Hindu*.

He said that the VHP's objective would not be affected by the Ram Temple episode.

Even the 'wicked' have the right to a lawyer, SC had said in a judgment

NEWS ANALYSIS

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

The Faizabad Bar's resolution to deny legal representation to the accused in the Ram Temple embezzlement case transgresses a Supreme Court judgment that even a "wicked" person has a fundamental right to a competent advocate.

The Supreme Court judgment that clearly enunciates this highest of the traditions of the Bar is based on a case originating in Tamil Nadu regarding a confrontation between a lawyer and local policeman in Coimbatore. The local Bar Association had passed a resolution that no lawyer would represent the accused policemen.

A Division Bench of Justices Markandey Katju and Gyan Sudha Misra (both retired now), in a 2010 judgment in *A.S. Mohammed Rafi versus State of Tamil Nadu*, declared that such resolutions by Bar bodies were "wholly illegal, against all traditions and professional ethics".

A 2010 judgment had declared that such resolutions by Bar bodies were 'wholly illegal, against all traditions and professional ethics'

'Duty of a lawyer'

"Every person, however wicked, depraved, vile, degenerate, perverted, loathsome, execrable, vicious or repulsive he may be regarded by society has a right to be defended in a court of law, and correspondingly, it is the duty of the lawyer to defend him," Justice Katju famously observed in a short judgment.

The judgment referred to Article 22(1) of the Constitution, which mandates that an arrested person should not be "denied the right to consult, and to be defended by, a legal practitioner of his choice".

Again, the 'Standards of Professional Conduct and Etiquette' chapter of the Bar Council of India Rules require that an advocate is bound to accept any brief unless special circumstances justify refusal.

"Professional ethics requires that a lawyer cannot refuse a brief, provided a client is willing to pay his fee, and the lawyer is not otherwise engaged," the court said.

A boycott of an accused, even if he is a suspected terrorist, rapist, or mass murderer, was against all norms of the Constitution.

The judgment is remembered for giving historical examples of lawyers, real and fictional, standing up for professional values.

Reference to Erskine

Justice Katju referred to Thomas Erskine's defence of Thomas Paine, facing treason charges for his pamphlet "The Rights of Man" on the French Revolution, even at the cost of losing his position as the Attorney-General for the Prince of Wales.

The Bench had quoted the "ringing words" of the fictional Atticus Finch in Harper Lee's book *To Kill a Mockingbird* about courage in profession: "Courage is not a man with a gun in his hand. It is knowing you are licked before you begin, but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what. You rarely win, but sometimes you do."

INDIA bloc writes to CJI on 'biased conduct' of EC; DMK, AAP sign letter

Sobhana K. Nair
NEW DELHI

Twenty-three Opposition parties have sent a joint memorandum to Chief Justice of India Surya Kant alleging "biased" conduct by the Election Commission, highlighting the special intensive revision (SIR) carried out in States such as West Bengal and Bihar, as well as the ongoing exercise in other States.

The Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) and the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), which were not present at the meeting of the Indian National Developmental, Inclusive Alliance on June 8, have also signed the letter.

The AAP is not a part of the bloc, while the DMK had informed its allies that it would not attend the meeting, rebuking the Congress for what it described as a post-election "betrayal" after the party switched sides to the TVK-led government in Tamil Nadu.

Planning time: Leaders of the INDIA bloc at a meeting held in New Delhi on June 8. ANI

The decision to send a joint letter was taken during the meeting, which was convened at the insistence of former West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee following the Trinamool Congress's defeat in the Assembly election. She had urged the INDIA bloc leaders to visit the State to project Opposition unity. However, the proposal did not find support. Instead, several leaders, especially Independent Rajya Sabha member and senior Supreme Court lawyer Kapil Sibal, suggested that a joint memorandum be sent to the Chief Justice on alleged electoral irregularities.

Announcing the move, Congress general secretary (communications) Jairam Ramesh said in a post on X: "The Opposition parties are firmly anchored in SURE – Solidarity, Unity and Resistance."

The INDIA bloc has not shared the contents of the letter. However, a senior leader said, "When all else fails, Indian democracy looks towards the judiciary. We have flagged the biased conduct of the Election Commission and the ways in which election results are manipulated."

The Supreme Court has already heard a petition on the SIR.

A two-judge Bench on May 27 unanimously upheld the SIR in Bihar, holding that the exercise was constitutionally valid, proportionate and within the poll body's powers under Article 324 of the Constitution and Section 21 (3) of the Representation of the People Act, 1950.

Trinamool's Martyrs' Day rally denied permission

The Hindu Bureau
KOLKATA

The police have imposed prohibitory orders under Section 163 of the Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023, restricting public gatherings and rallies across parts of central Kolkata, including the Esplanade area, ahead of the Trinamool Congress's July 21 Martyrs' Day rally.

The order, issued on Tuesday, will remain in force from July 2 to August 30. The police said that they could not grant permission to any to hold meeting in front of Victoria House because of the prohibitory orders.

This means that neither of the Trinamool factions will get the venue in front of Victoria House to organise the gathering.

Minister promises seamless shift to job scheme; Cong. raises pending dues

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Mallikarjun Kharge

Ahead of the nationwide roll-out of the Viksit Bharat – Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act, 2025, on Wednesday, Union Rural Development Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan on Tuesday said that no eligible rural worker should remain without work even for a single day.

Congress president Mallikarjun Kharge flagged the pending dues to the State governments under the predecessor Act – Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA).

In a statement issued here, Mr. Chouhan said the Centre had been working in close coordination with the States and Union Territories and had completed all administrative, financial, and technical preparations to ensure seamless transition to the new framework.

"Adequate financial resources have been made available, implementation systems are fully in place, and ongoing works will continue without interruption," Mr. Chouhan said.

He added that the enhanced guarantee of 125 days of wage employment, against 100 days under the MGNREGA, would strengthen rural livelihoods, create durable community assets, and accelerate the vision of Viksit Bharat. For the roll-out from July 1, the Centre had allocated an interim sum of ₹95,692.31 crore to States and Union Territories, he said.

Seven questions

Mr. Kharge, in a post on X, posed seven questions to Prime Minister Narendra Modi. Citing a reply given by the government in the Lok Sabha in March, Mr. Kharge said ₹17,144.13 crore was outstanding to 34 States and Union Territories under MGNREGA, including ₹7,846.25 crore in wage liabilities.

"This means the workers haven't received their rightful payment yet. Why?" Mr. Kharge asked. He also questioned the revised funding pattern under the new law, which requires most States to bear 40% of the total expenditure. He said even BJP-governed Madhya Pradesh and Bihar had expressed concerns over the arrangement.

The Congress chief questioned the "blackout" provision that halts work for 60 days during the farming season.

"Why is the Central government forcing this anti-labour system on farmers and rural workers?" he asked.

Mr. Kharge highlighted what he described as the government's reluctance to increase wages. "This June saw 42% less rainfall. Kharif sowing is down 22.7%. Over 300 districts could be gripped by drought... In this situation, ending MGNREGA – isn't it an attack on workers, SCs, STs, OBCs and the poor?" he said.

Venugopal moves privilege notice against Rajnath over Operation Sindoor casualties

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Congress general secretary K.C. Venugopal on Tuesday moved a privilege notice against Defence Minister Rajnath Singh in the Lok Sabha, accusing him of misleading Parliament by stating during the Operation Sindoor debate last year that no Indian soldier had been killed.

In a letter to Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Mr. Venugopal sought initiation of privilege proceedings against the Defence Minister under Rule 223 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business in the Lok Sabha.

The Congress leader said that during the discussion held in July 2025 on the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, Mr. Singh had told the House that no harm had come to Indian soldiers.

K.C. Venugopal

However, he noted that the government had since acknowledged that six personnel of the armed forces died during the military operation.

"The Minister's statement on the floor of the House that there had been no casualties during Operation Sindoor was clearly misleading and incorrect," Mr. Venugopal said in the notice, adding that misleading Parliament or withholding information amounted to a breach of privilege and contempt of the House.

"How could he, in July 2025, say that no Indian soldier was martyred, and then a year later the forces announce that we have lost six jawans?" he asked in a post on X.

'Insult to the families'

He said withholding information about the deaths was an insult to the families of the personnel and the armed forces, adding that they had laid down their lives in defence of the nation.

‘Killing of Palestinian children part of larger plan for genocide’

Palestinian children as young as 10 are labelled ‘terrorists’ and shot dead by Israeli security forces, says Chair of independent probe panel, pointing to the death of over 20,000 children since October 2023; he notes that the plan is to ensure the biological and social discontinuity of the Palestinian people by leaving mothers malnourished, depriving newborns of incubators, and destroying schools

INTERVIEW

Justice S. Muralidhar

Krishnadas Rajagopal
NEW DELHI

Justice S. Muralidhar, Chair of the Independent International Commission of Inquiry on the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and Israel, discusses the United Nations panel’s report on crimes committed on Palestinian children by the Israeli security forces. The report details the death of at least 20,179 children and injuries to 44,143 children since the October 7, 2023 armed incursions by Hamas.

The former Chief Justice of Orissa High Court and senior advocate in the Supreme Court explains the findings of systematic targeting of the most vulnerable Palestinian populations – women, children, and the elderly. Edited excerpts:

What are the root causes driving this specific targeting of women, children, and the elderly?

The modern conflict traces back to the 1947 UN two-state framework, which Palestinians oppose because they were not consulted. Following historical events like the Nakba and the Yom Kippur war, Israel has continuously expanded its territorial limits. Because Israel’s vision contradicts the UN resolution, it operates on the premise that once it occupies these territories, it cannot be asked to leave. The Commission’s mandate spans both the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Israel to address these deeply sensitive, underlying root causes. Some of these causes can be traced back to Biblical times.

Has the child ceased to be a protected entity and been reduced to a deliberate weapon of war?

Children as young as 10 are labelled “terrorists”. This strips them of all rights. They are reduced to “free game” or “target practice”. Israeli soldiers shoot on sight, justifying their actions by claiming they are shooting a terrorist rather than a child.

At what point does the legal definition shift from crimes against humanity to outright, calculated genocide?

Genocide requires “deliberate intent” to destroy a group. The Commission’s September 2025 report described a constant attack intended to deprive Palestinians of land, resources, and cultural roots. Targeting children ensures the biological and social discontinuity of the Palestinian people. This strategy includes targeting pregnant women, leaving mothers malnourished, and depriving newborns of incubators. Combined with the destruction of 97% of schools and specific targeting by quadcopters, snipers, and drones, there are reasonable grounds to believe this targeted killing of children is part of a larger plan for genocide.

R.V. MOORTHY

In the face of absolute non-cooperation from Israel, what verification standards did the Commission employ to ensure testimonies are legally ironclad?

We only utilise evidence corroborated by independent sources. If a child testifies about what he underwent in an Israeli prison, we look for forensic ways to establish the presence of that child. We secure testimonies from healthcare workers, journalists, and victims. We analyse photographs, medical reports, and footage that Israeli soldiers upload on social media. Notably, Israel did not dispute any of this evidence in their 18-page rebuttal.

The report explicitly names Israeli military units. Is this the baseline framework for future international war crimes prosecution?

It should be. Accountability mechanisms are rarely properly activated, so we pinpointed specific evidence of responsibility. Thousands of nationals from 16 to 17 countries, including the U.S., France, and the U.K., serve in the IDF (Israel Defense Forces). Treaty nations have an obligation to investigate their citizens using “universal jurisdiction” if they are implicated in war crimes, regardless of where the crimes occurred.

How does international law address the psychological decoupling of tech-driven warfare from the reality of slaughter?

International law allows for interpretation. When a soldier notes that a quadcopter “does not hesitate, does not stop and almost never makes mistakes”, equating its operation to a video game, they know fully well what the consequences are. The wielding of a weapon to inflict maximum damage is something international law accommodates without needing structural amendments. The core requirement remains demonstrating the extent of the damage and the fact that children are paying with their lives.

Is this a failure of individual discipline among soldiers, or a top-down doctrine trickling directly from the Knesset?

Two days after October 7, 2023, the Deputy Speaker of the Knesset posted “erase Gaza” on social media. This public stance demonstrates the absolute level of impunity they enjoy. It serves as a testing time for international legal mechanisms.

Has the Israeli judiciary completely compromised its independence to shield the military?

It is unfortunate the Israeli judiciary is unable to see the injustice of the whole thing. *Habeas corpus* is a fundamental remedy for an abducted child. If that is unavailable, we might as well not have a judicial system. This is why we need an efficient, working international legal order. The basis for the International Criminal Court is that a country is either unwilling or unable to bring people to justice. Here, it is a combination of both.

Israel has dismissed the Commission’s findings as institutional bias. What is your response?

Although we would have liked to talk to Israeli soldiers and citizens, Israel does not permit that to happen. We are an investigating body and remain prepared to consider any material Israel may have. We have no other agenda than uncovering the truth.

Realistically, do your recommendations possess actual teeth, or will they simply be ignored by Western member states?

I am hoping they are not ignored. We made presentations of our report before the Security Council, the European Union, individual ambassadors... A report like this helps mobilise a critical mass of public opinion, which ultimately compels governments to change their attitude.

INBRIEF

Maharashtra TET leak: wife of alleged kingpin arrested

The Special Investigation Team (SIT) probing the paper leak scam in the Maharashtra Teachers Eligibility Test has made a fourth arrest in the case. A team of the Maharashtra Police arrested Suman Kumari Gupta, 40, from Patna in Bihar. She is the wife of the alleged kingpin of the scam, Bijendar Kumar Baleshwar Kumar Sah, who is absconding. Ms. Gupta was remanded in police custody till July 6 by a Thane court.

Guwahati police seize 37 kg gold from Maharashtra man

The Assam Police on Monday night recovered 37.064 kg of suspected smuggled gold valued at ₹54 crore from a Maharashtra-based man with disabilities in Guwahati. The police also seized 13 grams of silver nodules, four mobile phones, and ₹3,755 in cash from 32-year-old Akshay Bansode, arrested in connection with the case. The police said the probe found international smuggling links to Myanmar and West Asia.

709 new species and 353 taxa added to fauna, flora database

Kerala recorded the highest of 98 new species, followed by West Bengal and Karnataka; Arunachal Pradesh emerged on top with 49 findings of new flora, with Uttarakhand taking the second spot

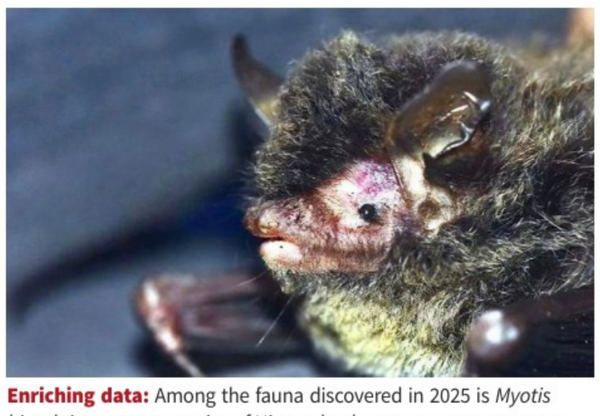
Shiv Sahay Singh
KOLKATA

India added 709 species to its fauna in 2025, which includes 483 species new to science and 226 species recorded for the first time in India. The country also added 353 taxa to its flora, of which 14 are infraspecific taxa.

The details of new discoveries and new records by the Zoological Survey of India and Botanical Survey of India were released by Union Minister for Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Bhupender Yadav in Kolkata on Tuesday.

“India’s total faunal biodiversity now stands at 1,05,953 species, reaffirming its status as one of the world’s premier mega diverse nations,” a press statement from ZSI read.

A State-wide analysis of the new animal discoveries points out that Kerala recorded the highest 98 new species of animals, followed by West Bengal with 76 species, Karnataka 67 species, and Arunachal Pradesh 65 species of fauna.


Enriching data: Among the fauna discovered in 2025 is *Myotis himalaicus*, a new species of Himayalan bat. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Among the animal groups added to the country’s fauna, Hymenoptera contributed the highest number of additions (106), followed by Lepidoptera (65), Diptera (64), Arachnida (64), Coleoptera (55), and Pisces (50).

Among the crucial fauna discovered in 2025 is *Myotis himalaicus*, a new species of Himayalan bat. *Ptyctolaemus mamdaphaensis* and *Ptyctolaemu siangensis* are two newly discovered species of green fan-throated lizard and *Lycodon irwini*, a species commonly known as Irwin’s wolf snake.

Of the 353 plant taxa added to the floral database, 221 have been described as new to science, while 132 taxa represent new distributional records for India.

A State-wise analysis of the plant discoveries indicates that Arunachal Pradesh emerged as the leading contributor with 49 discoveries, followed by Uttarakhand (39) and Kerala (37).

The Plant Discoveries, 2025 documents 154 angiosperms, three pteridophytes, 13 bryophytes, 62 lichens, 93 fungi, 22 algae, and six microbes. Among the most notable discoveries are several wild relatives of economically and ecologically significant plant groups, including Begonia, Impatiens (balsams), legumes, and orchids.

“Approximately 43% of the newly described taxa belong to vascular plants,” a press statement by the BSI read.

Firefighters try to control the blaze that broke out in a Haldia Petrochemicals pipeline in West Bengal on Tuesday. PTI

One dead, 17 injured as naphtha pipeline catches fire in Bengal

The Hindu Bureau
HALDIA

One person died and 17 were injured after a fire broke out in a naphtha pipeline of Haldia Petrochemicals Ltd. in Purba Medinipur district of West Bengal early on Tuesday morning.

Efforts to contain the fire continued till late in the evening. The fire broke out around 4 a.m, and within moments, spread to Chiranjeevpur in Ward No. 13 of Haldia Municipality.

Several houses in the vicinity caught fire. Since areas surrounding railway tracks were also affected by the fire, railway services were temporarily affected.

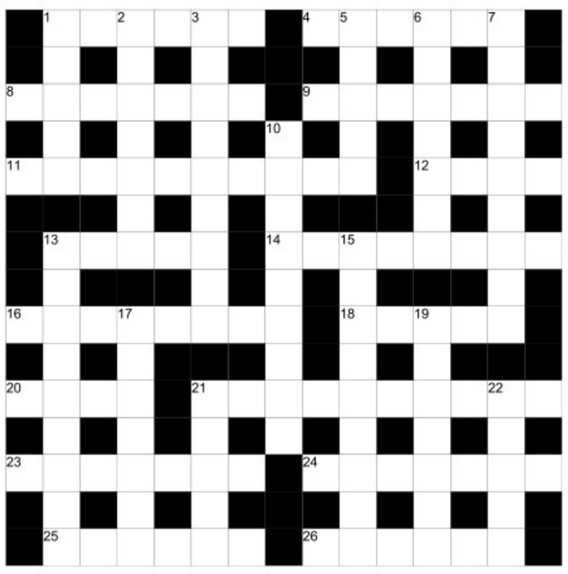
The company, in a statement, said, “Preliminary information suggests that the incident may have occurred in the vicinity of an unauthorized naphtha theft point located in the plant vicinity. Naphtha is a highly combustible and extremely flammable hydrocarbon, and the company has consistently cautioned local communities against any unauthorized access to or handling of petroleum products due to the serious safety risks involved,” it said.

TH CROSSWORD + 14834

(set by Gridzilla)

Solve this puzzle online and access more puzzles at *https://thehindu.com/crosswords*

SCAN TO PLAY



ACROSS

1. They need to be taught a lesson about failure (6)
4. One's c-cross to bear? (6)
8. One street goes around Italian city (7)
9. Man! With this braggart, I get most annoyed (7)
11. Estimation of a tax shown to the auditor (10)
12. Go to lake and strip (4)
13. Husband is excitedly eating American dish (5)
14. OMG! It's a new change, designed to reduce pollution (8)
16. A dashing personality? (8)
18. Sailing east, around Australia (2,3)
20. Nitwit knocked back rum bottles only (4)
21. According to Spooner, many excelled in swimming event (10)
23. One suspect reportedly gets betrayed (4,3)
24. Reason one can't travel abroad to Germany, or a city in Serbia? (4,3)
25. Part of cliff or a fjord receding in the distance (3,3)
26. Heard Frank finally got a revolver (6)

DOWN

1. First to finish remaining prunes? (5)
2. Wants to guide chaps playing soccer primarily (7)
3. That's life, working for a 2 pm -10 pm job perhaps (4,5)
5. Fellow takes time out in tough contest (5)
6. Commanding officer turned up to discharge one of the marines? (7)
7. Dame, one who's murdered ultimately in play? (9)
10. Amateur gets inspired by fantastic career in a team sport (5,4)
13. Gradually steal in shop? (6,3)
15. Brown can on the counter has a bit of dill and mushroom (9)
17. Sample from skin or dermis is ok (2,5)
19. European dancing in bar - extremely seductive (7)
21. Downright lie! (5)
22. Snake kept rattling and intimidated trespassers at the outset (5)

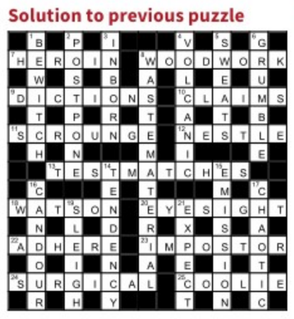
SUDOKU

5	8				2		9	
3								8
	2	1		9			6	
	1			7				2
		5				7		
6				8			1	
	5			4		3	7	
9								4
	3		5				2	1

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★★☆☆

No.SS6928 Distribution: www.knightfeatures.com

Solution to previous puzzle



Solution to yesterday’s Sudoku

4	1	7	2	3	6	8	5	9
9	3	2	8	7	5	6	1	4
6	8	5	1	9	4	3	2	7
2	9	6	7	4	8	5	3	1
1	5	8	9	6	3	7	4	2
7	4	3	5	2	1	9	6	8
8	2	4	3	5	9	1	7	6
3	6	9	4	1	7	2	8	5
5	7	1	6	8	2	4	9	3

FAITH

Sudarshana removes fear

Chakrapani Temple in Kumbakonam is renowned as a first and unique shrine dedicated to Chakrathazhwar (Lord Sudarshana), where the earliest known hymn exclusively praising Him, “Hethi Pungava Stavam”, was composed by Nadadur Ammal in this holy place, where it cured the mental illness of a person named Kandalan, said Dr. Venkatesh in a discourse. The hymn’s 32 verses celebrate the many glories of Chakrathazhwar, who is revered as the foremost of Lord Vishnu’s divine weapons, the embodiment of the wheel of time (Kala Chakra), and a principal symbol of Sriman Narayana. He protects devotees, destroys sins through His sacred touch (Pancha Samskara), removes fear and negative influences, safeguards unborn children in the womb, grants spiritual purity and eligibility for divine service, and upholds Dharma as the Lord’s powerful instrument.

Chakrathazhwar is revered as the divine guide who showed the righteous path to Lord Krishna and Arjuna, and is known as “Su-Darshana” – the One who grants vision of the right path. The Sama Veda glorifies the sacred Pancha Samskara, and it is said those who bear the divine marks of Chakrathazhwar on their shoulders attain liberation more easily. Such devotees are also protected from the approach of Yama, the lord of death. He swiftly comes to their rescue, just as He destroyed powerful enemies such as Mali and Sumali. He grants strength, courage, and protection to his devotees, which is why the offering of a red garland is considered especially dear to Him. Chakrathazhwar destroys evil forces, demons, and those who harbour hatred towards Bhagavan and His devotees.

INBRIEF

NCLAT upholds order to pay PF dues to Jet Airways staff

The National Company Law Appellate Tribunal (NCLAT) on Tuesday upheld an NCLT order directing Jet Airways' liquidator to pay provident fund (PF) and gratuity dues to workmen and employees in full. The NCLAT rejected pleas by SBI and other banks that payment of PF, gratuity and pension fund dues be part of the liquidation estate, where they would be subjected to competing claims from various creditors under the IBC distribution mechanism.

After Trent, Noel Tata to step down as Voltas chairman

Almost a week after stepping down as chairman of Trent, Noel Tata announced on Tuesday that he would also relinquish the chairmanship of another Tata group firm, Voltas. Addressing shareholders of the leading cooling products maker in its 72nd AGM, Mr. Noel Tata, 69, said this would be his last AGM as Chairman of Voltas. "As you might be aware, this will be my last annual general meeting as Chairman," Mr. Noel Tata said in his address to shareholders. PTI

Export duty on diesel, ATF reduced; petrol increased

Prompting a potential boost to India's export of hydrocarbons, the Union Finance Ministry late on Tuesday lowered the export duty on diesel to ₹8.5 per litre and aviation turbine fuel (ATF) to ₹7.5 per litre, while increasing the export levy on petrol to ₹4 per litre. The rates are applicable for the fortnight commencing July 1. In addition to this, the government expanded the number of countries exempted from the levy to include Mauritius and Maldives.

Govt. extends customs duty exemption on petrochem imports

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The Union Finance Ministry on Tuesday extended the customs duty exemption on import of petrochemical products by another 15 days as it seeks to ensure a smooth transition for the domestic manufacturing industry relying on them for feedstock and intermediates.

At the peak of the West Asia conflict, on April 2, the government announced the waiver to ensure uninterrupted supply for domestic manufacturing industries.

"As the situation is gradually normalising, to ensure a smooth and non-disruptive transition for the affected sectors, it has been decided to extend the said exemption by a further period of 15 days, that is, till July 15," the Finance Ministry said in a statement.

The exempted items include anhydrous ammonia, methanol, acetic acid and polyvinyl chloride.

Surge in ship traffic across Hormuz as Iran, Oman talk

With the Joint Hormuz Committee set up to finalise future framework for ship transits, tracker agencies reported rise in transits across the strait, including west-bound ships for loading cargo

M. Kalyanaraman
CHENNAI

With Iran and Oman setting up a Joint Hormuz Committee to come up with a framework for the management of the Strait of Hormuz, tracker agencies have reported a surge in transits across the strait, including west-bound ships entering the strait for loading cargo.

Early last week, Iran and Oman's ministers met and agreed to set up a joint committee.

But Iran, saying its role in managing the strait was not being recognised, launched a drone attack on a ship transiting through the Omani route.

On Thursday (June 25), the foreign ministers of Iran and Oman spoke on the phone and agreed to move forward on talks.

On Monday (June 29), Kazem Gharibabadi, Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran, met with Abdulaziz Al Hinai, Oman's Minister of State for Foreign Affairs, to mark the first meeting of the Joint Hormuz Committee in Muscat, Oman. Mr. Gharibabadi posted on X that he discussed with his Omani counterpart the future management of the strait and the sovereignty of coastal states.

Smooth sail: Ships not related to Iran accounted for almost the entire increase in traffic. AFP

Despite a surge in attacks by both sides last week, ship transits over the week of June 22-28 increased 70% over the previous week, as per Lloyd's List data. More than 240 ship transits happened last week, compared to some 130 the previous week.

Almost all the increase came across the non-Iranian route, presumably along Oman, and these had no links to Iran. Four Indian ships that had applied for permission from both the nations for transiting continue to be anchored inside the Gulf, as per marinetraffic.com

Ships not related to Iran accounted for almost the entire increase in traffic, indicating that both the northern Iranian and the southern Omani routes are now popular among shippers seeking to evacuate. Significantly, Lloyd's List records 85 ships moving into Persian Gulf last week.

The MoU calls for 60 days of toll-free traffic, following which a mutually agreed framework will need to be put in place.

While Iran has indicated a preference for tolls, Oman, last week, signed on to a Gulf Cooperation Council statement that called for no tolls.

In 1968, the two sides proposed an inbound and outbound channel with a buffer in between, in the middle of the strait, for ship transit; this became the norm and was accepted by the International Maritime Organization, but there was no mention of sovereignty, tolls, or governance then. Iran has said it has mined these channels during the current war.

FinMin panel clears Budget proposal of ₹1.25 lakh cr. for ISM 2.0

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The expenditure department under the Finance Ministry has cleared a Budget proposal entailing an allocation of ₹1.25 lakh crore for India Semiconductor Mission 2.0, as the country looks to advance global chip-making ambitions and cement its position as a semiconductor destination for the world, according to sources.

The approval is significant as it is higher than the outlay of ₹76,000 crore earmarked for ISM 1.0.

Sources said that the Expenditure Finance Committee has greenlit the ₹1.25 lakh crore outlay for ISM 2.0, and that the same will be placed before the Union Cabinet.

The Budget, in February, had sought to give a big boost to the country's manufacturing prowess announcing, among various measures, the second edition of India Semiconductor Mission with a broad objective to promote chip manufacturing ecosystem in the country covering equipment, materials, indigenous designs and related components.

The Centre has maintained that Semiconductor Mission 2.0 announced in the Union Budget signals India's deep commitment to chip manufacturing, with a focus on semiconductor equipment, materials, indigenous intellectual property and resilient supply chains.

MSC arm to buy 49% stake in Vizhinjam port for $1.4 bn

Lalatendu Mishra
MUMBAI

Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Ltd. (APSEZ) and Mediterranean Shipping Company (MSC) Group's terminal arm, Terminal Investment Ltd. (TiL), have announced a definitive agreement under which TiL will invest $1.397 billion to pick up a 49% stake in Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Ltd. (AVPPL) that operates the Vizhinjam port in Kerala.

The move is expected to enhance volume visibility and ramp-up incremental cargo at Vizhinjam port.

"The strategic collaboration represents the single largest foreign private investment in Indian port infrastructure and cements Vizhinjam's emergence as a dominant transshipment gateway in the Indian Ocean region," APSEZ said.

"Vizhinjam port has emerged as a premier transshipment hub and ramped up at an unprecedented pace, becoming the first Indian port to earn the unique distinction of crossing 2 million TEUs within 18 months," said Ashwani Gupta, whole-time director and CEO, APSEZ.

TiL is one of the world's largest container terminal operators and part of the MSC Group, comprising a portfolio of over 100 container terminals in five continents with a throughput of over 70 million TEUs annually.

'Fintechs' personal loan defaults rose'

The Hindu Bureau
MUMBAI

Small value loans rose 41.6% in fintech firms as of March 2026.

Fintech firms' small ticket personal loan defaults rose to 6.4% in March this year from about 4% in March 2024, signalling potential asset quality risks, according to Reserve Bank of India's Financial Stability Report (FSR) June 2026.

Small ticket loans refer to borrowings less than ₹50,000. Delinquent loans are defined as loans due for 90-170 days.

Unsecured retail loans constitute about 70.5% of fintech firms' loan books and about half of them were extended to borrowers under 35 years of age. An overwhelming share of Indian small borrowers resort to loan apps, mostly due to accessibility.

Fintech firms now control more than half of the small ticket personal loan market followed by NBFCs with a smaller but substantial 30.7% of such loans. Banks had more than 20% of the market in March 2024 and this came down to 10% as of March 2026.

These small value loans increased 41.6% in fintech firms as of March 2026, from less than 15% in the same period last year.

The gross non-performing asset ratio of NBFCs as a whole is likely to rise to 2.8% of outstanding loans by March 2027 from 2.4% a year earlier. Of the 174 NBFCs that underwent stress test, seven may fall short of the 15% minimum capital norm, the RBI said.

CIL targets ₹1,900-cr. FY2030 R&D spend

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

Coal India Ltd. (CIL) said it is targeting to invest about ₹1,900 crore in research and development (R&D) by FY2030. CIL spent ₹61 crore on R&D in FY24, which surged to ₹245 crore in FY25 with the establishment of the National Centre for Coal and Energy Research (NaCCER).

Norms laid down by the Department of Public Enterprises mandate annual R&D expenditure of an average 1% of the entity's profit before tax from the preceding three years. NaCCER is supervising 19 R&D projects at an outlay of ₹225 crore. 13 more projects dealing with pilot-scale research and prototype development are underway at CIL's three Centres of Excellence.

CIL subsidiary Eastern Coalfields Ltd has an agreement with Canada's Ergo Exergy for underground coal gasification.

APPOINTMENT

NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT & PANCHAYATI RAJ
(An Organisation of the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India)
Rajendranagar, Hyderabad-500030

National Institute of Rural Development and Panchayati Raj (NIRDPR) an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Rural Development, Govt. of India proposes to engage the services of suitable candidate on contract basis for the positions of **Mission Manager (Livelihoods)** and **Junior Mission Executive** under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM). Online applications are invited for the position mentioned below:

Sl. No	Name of the Position	No. of Positions	Remuneration
1	Mission Manager (Livelihoods)	1	₹1,00,000/- per month
2	Junior Mission Executive	1	₹55,000/- per month

For Job Profile, Eligibility Criteria, online submission of application and other details please visit: **http://career.nirdpr.in/** Last date for submission of online application is **15/07/2026.**

Advt.No.12/2026
File No:NIRD&PR-NRLMRC/REC/2018-19-Part(1)
Comp.no. 16012

Sd/-
Assistant Director
Administration (Section-I)

TAMILNADU FOREST DEPARTMENT
TIRUPATTUR FOREST DIVISION
VELLORE DISTRICT - 635 601, TAMIL NADU, INDIA

GLOBAL NOTICE FOR THE SALE OF RED SANDERS WOOD

Tamil Nadu Forest Department hereby notifies the sale of **100 Metric Tonnes** of Red Sanders Wood (RSW) through international competitive bidding by way of e-Tender-cum-e-Auction on **31st July, 2026** in the First cycle. The lots remaining unsold in the first cycle would be put for sale again on **20th August, 2026** in second cycle and **10th September, 2026** in third cycle. The Government of Tamil Nadu has all the necessary statutory approvals for the sale and export of RSW. The details of the sale conditions and related information are available in the following: **https://www.mstcindia.co.in**; **https://mstcecommerce.com** and **https://www.forests.tn.gov.in** For registration & participation, Contact MSTC: 9841002253 / 9177067332; **sroopn9@mstcindia.in**

Sd/ District Forest Officer,
Tirupattur Division, Tirupattur, Vellore District.

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT PRASARAN NIGAM LIMITED
Notice Inviting Bid

Online e-bid invited from firms/ contractors for following project:

BID ENQUIRY No. RVPN/EHV/A&SP/TN-150: Design, Supply, Installation, integration and Commissioning of Online Monitoring System for Transformers/ Reactors installed at various 765kV and 400kV Substation in RVPN Transmission System, Opening Date: 31.07.2026. [UBN No.VPN2627WLOB00793].

Other particulars of the bids may be visited on the procurement portal **(http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in, http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in)** of the state and **http://energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvpnl** departmental website.

Any extension in bid submission/opening date (if any) will be floated/uploaded on **http://eproc.rajasthan.gov.in; energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rrvpn & http://sppp.rajasthan.gov.in only.**

R.R.V.P.N./TR-7646/2026
Raj.Samwad/C/26/5869

Superintending Engineer
(Automation, N/M and SP), Jaipur

PSPCL Punjab State Power Corporation Limited

(Office: Chief Engineer/P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana)
CIN: U40109PB2010SGC033813 Website: www.pspcl.in

Tender Enquiry no. 15/CE/P&M/2026

CE/P&M, PSPCL, Ludhiana invites e-Tender for Manufacture, Testing, Supply and Delivery of 3 no. Hotline Washing Equipment(Vehicle Mounted) for operation at EHV substations & lines of 66Kv level. For detailed NIT & Tender specifications please refer to **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in** from 01.07.2026 from 11:00 hrs. onwards.

Note: Corrigendum and addendum, if any will be published online at **https://eproc.punjab.gov.in**

1079/12/2026-27/12826 C 690/26

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MUZAFFARABAD

JAAC leader arrested in PoK after protests, charged with sedition

AFP

Police in Pakistan-occupied Kashmir on Tuesday arrested the leader of the Joint Awami Action Committee (JAAC), an outlawed political group that has led weeks of protests over legislative seats reserved for refugees, officials said. Shaukat Nawaz Mirfaces sedition charges for allegedly inciting violence during protests. AP

MOSCOW

Russia 'shoots down' 419 drones; Ukraine says satellite site struck

REUTERS

Russia on Tuesday said it shot down 419 Ukrainian drones over the country overnight, including in the Moscow region, where a six-month-old baby was killed. Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said his forces struck a satellite communications site in the Moscow region for the second time in a week. AFP

WASHINGTON

Trump announces nomination of Sonderling as Labour Secretary

AFP

U.S. President Donald Trump said on Monday he will nominate Keith Sonderling to be the Secretary of Labour, elevating him from the agency's acting director two months after Lori Chavez-DeRemer resigned. "Keith has proven his dedication to delivering strong results," Mr. Trump posted on Truth Social. AP

LAHORE

Roof of tutoring centre collapses in Pakistan, killing at least 14 children

AP

A roof collapse at a tutoring centre in the eastern Pakistani city of Lahore killed at least 14 children and injured five on Tuesday, officials said. Workers had been repairing tiles on the decrepit building when the roof gave way and crushed the youngsters, a witness said. The children killed were aged between 4 and 12. AFP

Trump's envoys in Qatar; Iran says no plan for direct talks with the U.S.

Witkoff and Kushner will not meet Iranian diplomats directly while in Qatar, and discussions are not expected to involve high-level officials, says Doha; the Iranian side will hold negotiations with Qatari officials on the implementation of the MoU

Associated Press
DUBAI

Two U.S. envoys arrived in Qatar on Tuesday for talks with mediators about the implementation of an initial deal to end the war in Iran, an official said.

The visit by Steve Witkoff, U.S. President Donald Trump's special West Asia envoy, and Jared Kushner, his son-in-law, comes after a weekend of crossfire in the Persian Gulf over efforts to reopen the Strait of Hormuz to shipping traffic.

The envoys won't be having direct negotiations with Iranian diplomats while in Qatar's capital, Doha, said Majed al-Ansari, a spokesperson for Qatar's Foreign Ministry. Instead, mediators are working for the time being as go-betweens for the talks, which won't include any high-level officials, he added.

The talks in Doha comes after a weekend of crossfire in the Persian Gulf over efforts to reopen the Strait of Hormuz. REUTERS

The U.S. and Iran have held indirect negotiations before. However, the two previous rounds collapsed and preceded the 12-day war Israel launched against Iran in 2025 and this year's war, launched jointly by the U.S. and Iran on February 28.

Iran is also sending a delegation to Qatar this week. Iran's Foreign Ministry spokesperson Esmaeil Baqaei said that Iran has had no plans for a meeting with the American side at any level in the coming days.

"What will take place in Doha tomorrow is a discussion with the Qatari side about implementing parts of the memorandum of understanding, including the release of Iran's blocked assets," Mr. Baqaei told pressmen at his own briefing on Tuesday. It is possible the two sides could exchange messages through the Qatari mediators.

The U.S. and Iran agreed to an interim deal earlier this month that calls for Tehran to dilute its stockpile of enriched uranium. It also waives U.S.-backed oil sanctions on the country, calls for free traffic through the Strait of Hormuz and gives each side 60 days to hammer out broader agreements.

Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian said that Qatar plans to release $6 billion in frozen Iranian assets. A U.S. official, speaking on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive negotiations, confirmed the release amount, saying it would be used to buy U.S. food products for the Iranian people.

Court rejects Trump bid to limit birthright citizenship

Reuters
WASHINGTON

Handing President Donald Trump a stinging defeat, the U.S. Supreme Court on Tuesday rejected his audacious attempt to restrict birthright citizenship in the United States – a right long woven into the fabric of American society – scuttling one of his top priorities in his crackdown on immigration.

The 6-3 ruling marked the second time this year that the court has invalidated a major Trump initiative, following its February decision to strike down his sweeping global tariffs.

The judges upheld a lower court's decision that blocked Mr. Trump's executive order directing U.S. agencies not to recognise the citizenship of children born in the United States if neither parent is an American citizen or legal permanent resident, also called a "green card" holder.

Donald Trump

Challengers to Mr. Trump's order argued that it violates language in the U.S. Constitution's 14th Amendment that confers citizenship to those born in the United States who are "subject to the jurisdiction thereof".

Mr. Trump, who has repeatedly tested the limits of presidential power in domestic and foreign policy, issued the order last year on his first day back in office as part of a suite of policies to crack down on legal and illegal immigration.

Critics have accused the Republican President of racial and religious discrimination in his approach to immigration.

The Supreme Court weighs in on what it means to be an American citizen just ahead of the July 4 holiday when the United States marks the 250th anniversary of its founding.

Ahead of the ruling, some experts had estimated that Mr. Trump's directive could affect the legal status of as many as 250,000 babies born each year and could require the families of millions more to prove the citizenship status of their newborns.

Starmer pledges £15 bn to modernise U.K.'s defence forces

Reuters
LONDON

U.K. Prime Minister Keir Starmer pledged on Tuesday to spend an extra £15 billion to modernise Britain's depleted armed forces in a long-delayed investment plan that is designed to prepare for the wars of the future and mark his legacy.

In what is most likely his last major policy announcement, Mr. Starmer said the Defence Investment Plan went further than a previous draft that prompted his ally, John Healey, to resign as Defence Minister this month. Mr. Healey had accused Mr. Starmer of failing to secure enough money to keep Britain safe.

Mr. Starmer will take his plan – which foresees spending of nearly £80 billion a year by 2029 – to Ankara for a NATO meeting on July 7 to 8, where he will want to signal that Britain was on the path to meet its commitment to reach defence spending of 3.5% of GDP by 2035.

WHO sounds alarm on disease outbreaks in Venezuela amid post-quake relief efforts

Agence France-Presse
GENEVA

The World Health Organization voiced concerns on Tuesday about potential disease outbreaks in Venezuela with local health services overwhelmed following deadly earthquakes.

"The health services are under extreme pressure now, with facilities operating beyond the capacity," spokesperson Christian Lindmeier told a press conference in Geneva, noting the surge in trauma cases.

The toll from the earthquakes has risen to 1,943, National Assembly President Jorge Rodriguez said on Tuesday.

Residents search through the rubble of a building that collapsed in the earthquakes in La Guaira, Venezuela, on Tuesday. AP

Recorded injuries, meanwhile, rose to 10,571, according to him.

"There's an increased risk now of outbreaks of vaccine-preventable diseases" such as measles and diphtheria, said Mr. Lindmeier, due to low pre-earthquake vaccination coverage, as well as yellow fever, and other vector- and water-borne diseases, including malaria, dengue, chikungunya and Zika.

He said Venezuela's Interim President Delcy Rodriguez had reported that 38 hospitals had been affected by the twin earthquakes.

UNHCR said it needs an estimated $14.85 million to scale up protection, and provide core relief items and temporary shelter support for people.

Myanmar denies ASEAN request for meeting with Suu Kyi

Agence France-Presse
NAYPYIDAW

Myanmar's authorities have denied a request for ASEAN's special envoy to meet its deposed and detained democratic leader Aung San Suu Kyi, an administration spokesperson said on Tuesday.

The military plunged Myanmar into civil war in 2021 when it staged a coup ousting the Nobel Peace Prize laureate and ending a decade-long experiment with democracy.

After five years of military rule, coup leader Min Aung Hlaing this year surrendered his post as armed forces chief to take over as President after tightly restricted elections excluding Ms. Suu Kyi's party.

"Aung San Suu Kyi has been prosecuted under the law and is serving sentences," Myanmar presidential office spokesperson Khaing Khaing Soe told pressmen in Naypyidaw.

"Therefore she is not allowed to meet with international representatives."

Sport

Sreeshankar thrilled with his consistency post-surgery

Good tidings: Sreeshankar is delighted with the depth in Indian talent. BISWARANJAN ROUT

ATHLETICS

Y.B. Sarangi
BHUBANESWAR

Seasoned long jumper M. Sreeshankar values his second-best career effort of 8.38m, achieved despite a wet track and rotating wind at the National inter-State athletics at the Kalinga Stadium here.

Sreeshankar emphasised that this was his best performance since undergoing a knee surgery in April 2024. Despite a swollen knee and a troublesome ankle, he has shown strong consistency, clearing 8m in all five competitions since April this season.

The 27-year-old retains the enthusiasm he had eight years ago when he first crossed the 8m mark as a teenager.

"I was just counting. This was my 60th jump above 8m.

The kind of consistency I've put in, especially after the career-threatening injury I had in 2024, I was eagerly awaiting a good jump," said Sreeshankar, whose personal best stands at 8.41m.

"After being told that I won't be able to jump again, it really feels special. I'm grateful for whatever I'm doing. Still, my knees are not 100%, they're swollen. There are three ankle screws. I need to ice it regularly, do a soft tissue massage and work on my mechanics. I've gotten used to the new kind of training schedules."

He thanked his father-cum-coach S. Murali and strength-and-conditioning coach Wayne Lombard for their solid support.

> This was my 60th jump above 8m... after being told that I won't be able to jump again, it really feels special. I'm grateful for whatever I'm doing

Sreeshankar is delighted with the depth in Indian long jump.

"Before we left our room today, I told my dad that the competition is going to be above 8.30m for sure," revealed Sreeshankar, who is now seventh among the world's leading jumpers this season.

Shahnavaz Khan backed Sreeshankar's prediction, leaping 8.30m to place second and move to 11th in the world. "There are at least three-four people who are capable of that kind of jump. India has a wild start right now. We've four jumpers above 8.20m (in 2026)."

Inspiration

Aware of the challenges the Glasgow Commonwealth Games and Aichi-Nagoya Asian Games will present, Sreeshankar looks to elite global athletes for inspiration.

"We need to replicate what we do here, just there. Miltiadis Tentoglou and others, irrespective of the conditions, don't complain.

"Adaptation is something that we're missing. Once that comes, LA 2028 should be really interesting," said Sreeshankar.

India Open Super 750 moved to February

BADMINTON

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

The India Open Super 750 will be held in February next year and at the end of January in 2028, according to the World Tour Calendar for the next two years announced by the Badminton World Federation on Tuesday. The 2026 edition of the country's flagship event was held from January 13 to 18 at the Indira Gandhi Indoor Stadium.

It will now be staged from February 2 to 7 in 2027 and from January 25 to 30 in 2028 in the national capital. The Syed Modi India International, which has been downgraded to a Super 100 event, will be held in Lucknow from July 27 to August 1 in 2027 and from July 25 to 30 in 2028.

The BWF confirmed a 35-tournament global circuit for 2027 and 2028, ranging from Super 1000 to Super 100 levels, along with the season-ending World Tour Finals. At the top tier, the circuit will feature five Super 1000 tournaments across Asia and Europe, each staged over 11 days across two weekends.

The format will include a 48-player singles draw featuring a group stage followed by knockout rounds, along with a 32-pair doubles knockout draw.

The LA28 Olympic Games qualifying window runs from May 3, 2027 to April 30, 2028.

RARE OCCURRENCE

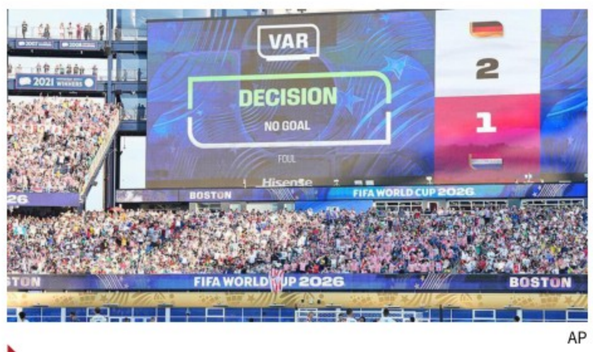
Germany and Netherlands achieve dubious distinction following exits

AFP

For the first time ever, two top-10 ranked teams were eliminated in the first round of the knockout stage of the FIFA World Cup. Germany (ranked No. 10) and the Netherlands (No. 8) achieved the dubious distinction after losing on penalties to Paraguay and Morocco, respectively, in the round of 32 on Monday.

CONTROVERSIAL DECISION

Tah's disallowed goal was perfectly legitimate: Klose hits out at VAR



AP

Germany legend Miroslav Klose has criticised the Video Assistant Referee (VAR) after Jonathan Tah's extra-time goal was ruled out in Germany's round of 32 loss to Paraguay. "The goalkeeper was never genuinely prevented from making the save, and for me that was a perfectly legitimate goal," Klose said.

NO IDENTITY

Did not recognise this Dutch team: Ibrahimovic lambasts Koeman

AP

Swedish icon Zlatan Ibrahimovic was critical of the Netherlands manager Ronald Koeman following his team's loss to Morocco on penalties. "I think this defeat is Koeman's fault because I didn't recognise this Dutch team. He lost with an identity that is not the Dutch identity, and that makes me angry. Lose with your identity".

AMID PERSONAL GRIEF

A goal, a prayer and a standing ovation for Cody Gakpo

REUTERS

After scoring against Morocco, Cody Gakpo sank to his knees, covered his face while weeping, later pointing to the sky. It was an emotional prayer as a day earlier he and his partner, model Noa van der Bij, announced the demise of their unborn child. His teammates supported him and fans behind the goal rose for a standing ovation.

Paraguay holds its nerve to send Germany hurtling out

The four-time champion loses in the shootout for the first time in the marquee event; Enciso puts the South Americans ahead before Havertz levels for the Europeans only to fluff his lines in the penalties along with Woltemade and Tah

FIFA WORLD CUP

Agence France-Presse
BOSTON

Decisive: Paraguay's Canale sends Neuer the wrong way and the Germans out of the tournament. REUTERS

Germany crashed out of the World Cup at the hands of Paraguay in the last 32 after losing 4-3 on penalties following a 1-1 draw on Monday. It marks the first time that Germany has ever lost a penalty shootout at a World Cup.

Julio Enciso headed Paraguay into a shock lead before half-time, but Kai Havertz levelled for Germany on 54 minutes with his third goal of the tournament.

Jonathan Tah saw a goal disallowed after a VAR review in extra time, before Paraguay held on to shock Germany in a wild, nerve-jangling shootout as the momentum swung back and forth. Paraguay goalkeeper Orlando Gill saved from Havertz and Nick Woltemade, but his teammates blew two chances to win it before Jose Canale blasted in the winning spot-kick after Tah had blazed his effort over the bar.

It marked another premature exit for Germany which was playing in its first knockout-stage appearance since winning the 2014 World Cup.

Paraguay celebrated arguably its greatest win at the tournament.

Paraguay coach Gustavo Alfaro had urged his players to grasp the opportunity of a lifetime. "It was a match full of tension from start to finish because we knew we were facing one of the main title contenders.

"The players understood perfectly what the match required and put in a huge effort to prevent Germany from finding spaces and playing their game," he said.

Later Nagelsmann said, "I'm not someone who runs away. I want to continue, but in football you don't always have it in your own hands. If the DFB (federation) wants me to, then I will prepare for the European Championship and the Nations League."

THE RESULTS

Round of 32: Germany 1 (Havertz 54) drew with Paraguay 1 (Enciso 42) (aet) (Paraguay won 4-3 on penalties).
Netherlands 1 (Gakpo 72) drew with Morocco 1 (Diop 90+1) (aet) (Morocco won 3-2 on penalties).
Ivory Coast 1 (Diallo 74) lost to Norway 2 (Nusa 39, Haaland 86).

Crucial intervention: Morocco goalkeeper Bounou parries away Summerville's penalty during the shootout. AP

Morocco edges Netherlands in a heart-pounding battle

Agence France-Presse
MONTERREY

Morocco defeated the Netherlands in a penalty shoot-out to advance to the last 16 of the World Cup on Monday after a thrilling battle finished 1-1 after extra-time.

Morocco goalkeeper Yassine Bounou made the crucial save to block the Netherlands' fourth penalty from Crysencio Summerville before striker Ismael Saibari stepped up to blast home the winning spot-kick that sealed a 3-2 shootout win. The victory sends Morocco into a last 16 clash with Canada in Houston on Saturday.

An enthralling match had gone to extra time after Issa Diop had glanced in a dramatic equaliser for Morocco in the first minute of stoppage time as the Netherlands closed in on victory.

The Dutch had taken the lead midway through the second half with a goal from Cody Gakpo.

But Morocco forced extra time when an unmarked Diop headed home from substitute Chemsdine Talbi's cross in injury time.

Morocco coach Mohamed Ouabhi the Atlas Lions could be "unstoppable" if they play to their potential.

"The World Cup in Qatar changed the mentality of the Morocco team, and I'm well placed to speak about this," said Ouabhi, who last year coached Morocco to a momentous victory at the Under-20 World Cup in Chile.

"What we need to be telling ourselves is no one can stop us," he said. "We're unstoppable if we play the football that we know how to play."

Netherlands coach Ronald Koeman meanwhile said Morocco's emergence reflected the quality of African football.

"It's very clear watching this World Cup that African teams have greatly improved in tactical sense, and also in the way they play their matches," Koeman said.

Thursday's matches

Round of 32

Belgium vs. **Senegal**, 1.30 a.m.
USA vs. **Bosnia & Herzegovina**, 5:30 a.m.

The day and time(s) pertain to India

Norway weathers tempestuous Ivory Coast to set up a Brazil date

Ayon Sengupta
DALLAS

Curling it in: Nusa fires Norway into the lead against the run of play with a stunning strike from just inside the edge of the box. REUTERS

Every rowing crew knows that progress comes only when everyone pulls in the same direction. Norway's fans have turned that truth into theatre at this World Cup, sitting in lines and rowing in unison through their celebrations.

By the final whistle, the players had joined the act. Norway played in the same spirit as it suffered as one, defended without panic and refused to allow Ivory Coast's physicality to impact the scoreline. The players sat down before their supporters and rowed together, the celebration perfectly reflecting the collective endeavour that had brought them safely ashore with a 2-1 triumph.

Norway was guilty of starting with too many square passes and failing to involve Erling Haaland, allowing Ivory Coast to grow into the contest. The Elephants played with a spring in their step, while Norway's defence was left trying to extinguish one attack after another as an error-ridden midfield offered little protection.

As play resumed after the hydration break, Yan Diomande's cross from the left picked out Nicolas Pepe arriving unmarked at the far post, and although his effort was unlikely to find the net, Marcus Pedersen was relieved to hack it out.

In the 36th minute, Haaland finally had a sight of goal after Alexander Sorloth floated in a cross from the right, but the Manchester City striker's bouncing header lacked its usual conviction and Yahia Fofana comfortably gathered.

Against the run of play, however, Norway scored in the 39th minute. Antonio Nusa collected the ball on the edge of the area and struck it like a hammer hitting the nail, with the ball disappearing into the top-right corner.

Norway came close to extending the lead a little after the hour mark as Torbjorn Heggem met Martin Odegaard's corner six yards out, but Amad Diallo, just introduced, was stationed on the line to hoof it clear.

Diallo soon had a bigger impact. He played a one-two with Pepe outside the box, took the return pass inside, before slipping past Moller Wolfe and Sander Berge to whip in the equaliser into the bottom-left corner with at least a quarter of an hour still to play for.

A simple Haaland tap-in in the 86th minute, however, ultimately broke the Ivorian hearts. The striker, largely uninvolved until then, arrived in front of goal to turn in Patrick Berg's cross as a flat-footed defence watched in horror.

Diallo, again, almost brought his team back as his stinging freekick in the dying minutes was acrobatically tipped out by a watchful Orjan Nyland.

When it mattered most, Norway had found one final stroke, enough to carry it past Ivory Coast and into a mouthwatering meeting with Brazil in New York.

England meets DR Congo in a tricky tie

Ayon Sengupta

Thomas Tuchel's England enters the round of 32 carrying the confidence of an unbeaten group-stage campaign, but standing between the Three Lions and the pre-quarterfinals is a DR Congo side making history. The Leopards have reached the World Cup knockout rounds for the first time. After drawing with Portugal, losing narrowly to Colombia and defeating Uzbekistan, they arrive believing they can frustrate another European heavyweight.

Coach Sebastien Desabre has built his side on defensive organisation, often switching to a back five against stronger opponents before striking on the counter through the pace of Yoane Wissa and the experience of Cedric Bakambu. Wissa has been the standout performer, scoring three of DR Congo's four goals in the group stage, while the energetic midfield pairing of Noah Sadiki and Ngal'ayel Mukau has given the Leopards the ability to spring quickly from defence into attack.

England, meanwhile, topped Group L with victories over Croatia and Panama besides a goalless draw against Ghana. Jude Bellingham and Harry Kane found the target in the opening and final group games, while Tuchel remains unbeaten in competitive matches as England coach. At the other end, the experienced pairing of John Stones and Marc Guehi has provided defensive stability despite injury concerns around the full-back positions.

The possibility of a penalty shootout has already entered England's preparations after two heavyweights Germany and the Netherlands were knocked out after losing the match from the dreaded spot.

"Just like all phases of play, we're taking it extremely seriously," winger Noni Madueke said. "As you go into knockout football it's something that becomes more prominent in the games, so like every part of our game we want to be at the highest level when it comes to that."

Desabre knows his squad will also draw on familiar faces from English football. "We've got a few players in the squad who play at clubs in the English league, so they will help us, but we'll prepare in the best way we can for what is going to be a very big match for us," he said.

Injuries to Reece James and backup Jarell Quansah at right-back may force England into another reshuffle. DR Congo, meanwhile, is expected to retreat into a compact defensive block, and patience may prove as the important quality in a knockout tie that promises to be tighter than the rankings suggest.

Match starts at 9.30 p.m. IST

Stat Attack

1 Germany suffered its first penalty shootout defeat in the quadrennial showpiece

3 Morocco progressed from three knockout round ties in the marquee event, as many as all other African nations combined

4 The Netherlands-Morocco contest witnessed the most number of missed shots from the spot in a World Cup game

4 Guimaraes' four assists in this edition is second behind Pele's six (1970) by a Brazilian

4 Netherlands bowed out in a penalty shoot-out for the fourth time, the most alongside Spain

11 Brazil progressed to the round of 16 for the 11th successive edition (since 1986 when the round was re-instated)

16 The Brazilians secured their 16th comeback win in the World Cup, going level with Germany for the most ever

34y 126d Casemiro became the second oldest goalscorer for Brazil in the football extravaganza after Bebeto (34y 137d in 1998)

88 Brazil won a World Cup knockout match (excluding third place playoffs) after trailing at the break for the first time since 1938 (2-1 vs. Czechoslovakia)

95 Martinelli scored the latest regulation game-winning goal for Brazil in the World Cup and latest regulation game-winning goal in a knockout game

COMPILED BY ANIRUDH VELAMURI

England bowlers will challenge struggling Indian batting unit

It remains to be seen whether the Men in Blue will give a debut to dashing opener Sooryavanshi; Shreyas cannot afford two series losses in a row as the new T20I skipper; the host boasts of a well-rounded team full of match-winners

INDIA IN ENGLAND

Press Trust of India
CHESTER-LE-STREET

Vaibhav Sooryavanshi's eagerly awaited debut and the thoroughly exposed batting frailties on challenging wickets dominate the discourse on India as it takes on England in a five-match T20I series starting here on Wednesday.

The twin failure of Sanju Samson against Ireland offers the Men in Blue a perfect excuse to bench the opener and pair Sooryavanshi with Abhishek Sharma, who could be saved by that 20-ball 49 in the first T20I at Belfast.

It could end up being the move that gives the visitor a strong start against England.

Ishan Kishan also did not cover himself in glory during the two-match series against Ireland and was dismissed for one and 12. But then the inclusion of Sooryavanshi alone should not be viewed as a quick fix.

None of the India batters looked comfortable in conditions that offered considerable assistance to speedsters. England has extreme pace in Jofra Archer, Josh Tongue, Saqib Mahmood, and Sonny Baker and wiliness in Adil Rashid and Rehan Ahmed.

That the average T20I score at the Riverside Ground is 138, with a highest of 195, hints at bowlers' dominance across eight previous matches held here.

India's new T20I captain Shreyas Iyer would certainly not want a second series defeat in a row.

In both the T20Is against Ireland, the Indian bowlers let the rival batters off the hook in the middle overs after taking an initial grip.

An encore will be more brutally exploited by England batters.

In that context, India will require a more organised effort from bowlers, particularly spinners – Axar Patel and Washington Sundar – who have so far been largely ineffective.

The teams (from):

England: Harry Brook (Capt.), Rehan Ahmed, Jofra Archer, Sonny Baker, Tom Banton, Jacob Bethell, Jos Buttler, James Coles, Jordan Cox, Sam Curran, Liam Dawson, Will Jacks, Saqib Mahmood, Adil Rashid, Phil Salt, Josh Tongue, and Luke Wood.

India: Shreyas Iyer (Capt.), Tilak Varma (Vice-capt.), Ravi Bishnoi, Abhishek Sharma, Suryansh Shedge, Prasidh Krishna, Sanju Samson (wk), Axar Patel, Harshit Rana, Ishan Kishan (wk), Washington Sundar, Arshdeep Singh, Shivam Dube, Prince Yadav, Vaibhav Sooryavanshi, and Varun Chakaravarthy.

Match starts at 10 p.m. IST.

India's T20I journey in England

As the Men in Blue gear up for the five-match series, it's time to revisit the numbers:

PLAYED 9

INDIA 4 + ENGLAND 5

2009

T20 WORLD CUP: At Lord's: England 153/7 in 20 overs bt India 150/5 in 20 overs

2011: One-off match: At Old Trafford: India 165 in 19.4 overs lost to England 169/4 in 19.3 overs

2014: One-off match: At Edgbaston: England 180/7 in 20 overs bt India 177/5 in 20 overs

2018 T20I SERIES:

At Old Trafford: England 159/8 in 20 overs lost to India 163/2 in 18.2 overs

At Sophia Gardens: India 148/5 in 20 overs lost to England 149/5 in 19.4 overs

At Bristol: England 198/9 in 20 overs lost to India 201/3 in 18.4 overs

2022

At Ageas Bowl: India 198/8 in 20 overs bt England 148 in 19.3 overs

At Edgbaston: India 170/8 in 20 overs bt England 121 in 17 overs

At Trent Bridge: England 215/7 in 20 overs bt India 198/9 in 20 overs

TOP OF THE CHARTS

BATTING			BOWLING		
ROHIT SHARMA (213 runs, 8 inns)	VIRAT KOHLI (192 runs, 7 inns)	SURYAKUMAR YADAV (171 runs, 3 inns)	HARDIK PANDYA (11 wkts, 5 inns)	CHRIS JORDAN (9 wkts, 6 inns)	KULDEEP YADAV (5 wkts, 2 inns)

THE 2026 SERIES

- **JULY 1,** Chester-le-Street, 10 p.m.
- **JULY 4,** Manchester, 7 p.m.
- **JULY 7,** Nottingham, 10 p.m.
- **JULY 9,** Bristol, 10 p.m.
- **JULY 11,** Southampton, 7 p.m.

**All times IST*

Compiled by **R.K. ARJUN** and **K.B. SRI KRISH**

Gardner and Mooney carry Australia into final with ease

T20 WORLD CUP

P.K. Ajith Kumar
LONDON

The West Indies was blown away by the perfect storm that is also known as the Australian women's cricket team.

The Aussies moved into the final of the Women's T20 World Cup, winning the first semifinal at the Oval by eight wickets with seven overs to spare on Tuesday. They will take on the winner of Thursday's second semifinal between England and South Africa at Lord's in Sunday's summit clash. That will be their eighth final in what is only the 10th edition of the tournament.

Sophie Molineux's women hadn't been stretched so far and had scored convincing wins over India and South Africa, two of the strongest teams in their group. You wouldn't call the West Indies quite that, and even their captain Hayley Matthews had admitted that no one really expected her team to win against Australia.

Matthews had begun in gorgeous fashion though, driving the first ball of the match, bowled Lucy Hamilton, fluently through the covers for four. Her opening-wicket stand with Qiana Joseph was worth 47, but it took them eight overs.

The wickets continued to tumble, the runs dried up. It took a seventh-wicket stand of 42 off 27 balls between Deandra Dottin, who had to be carried off the field by her teammates shortly before the match got underway, and Jannillea Glasgow, to make sure Australia would have some sort of a target to chase.

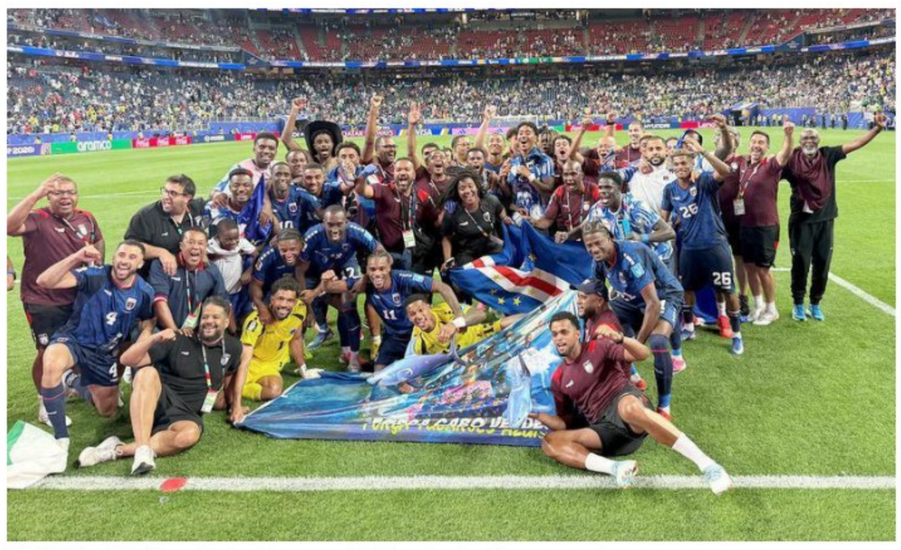
The Aussie spinners had a merry time, with Molineux, Ashleigh Gardner and Georgia Wareham sharing six wickets evenly among them.

The champion all-rounder Gardner then came back with the bat in her hands to play her part in the easy chase, which was led on a pleasant afternoon by Beth Mooney (61 n.o., 36b, 8x4).

Gardner (35 n.o. 20b, 4x4, 1x6), thus for the second time in as many matches, finished a successful chase for Australia.

The scores (semifinal): West Indies 125/7 in 20 overs (Hayley Matthews 30, Sophie Molineux 2/30, Ashleigh Gardner 2/13, Georgia Wareham 2/17) lost to Australia 127/2 in 13 overs (Beth Mooney 61 n.o., Gardner 35 n.o.); **Toss:** Australia; **PoM:** Gardner.

Leading the charge: Opener Mooney made it a stroll in the park for the Aussies. AP



Red-letter day: Cape Verde players and staff celebrate after progressing. REUTERS

Africa bests Asia in reaching the knockout stage

FIFA WORLD CUP

Ayon Sengupta

For decades, the World Cup was a tournament where Asia and Africa hoped to cause the occasional upset. This summer, while Africa has made a good account of its potential, Asia would feel disappointed at the end of the group stage of the competition.

A record nine of Africa's 10 qualified teams have made it to the knockout rounds, but only two from Asia progressed into the round of 32 – Japan has since bowed out while Australia is still to face Egypt.

Throwing light on Asia's collective disappointment, Jordan coach Jamal Sellami, whose team suffered three defeats in as many group games, said Asia needs "more players to play at that high level" to stand a chance of doing well in global competitions.

Japan coach Hajime Moriyasu, while acknowledging the below par performance of Asian teams, wanted his side to become "the hope" for the continent before the pre-quarterfinal heartbreak against Brazil.

His comments came days after viral footage showed Chinese football fans in Shanghai celebrating Japan's 4-0 victory over Tunisia, briefly setting aside decades of political rivalry.

Africa, meanwhile, has surpassed the continent's previous best, when only two reached the round of 16 in both 2014 and 2022. Among them, Cape Verde has been one of the tournament's biggest revelations.

"We have become an example that small countries also can have big objectives provided they have focus, determination and work with organisation," head coach Pedro Leitao Brito 'Bubista' said after securing a clash with Argentina.

"We have shown that nothing is impossible. We have represented our country, but we also represent Africa and small countries around the world. We are proud to be able to play Argentina," he said. "This is a country with which we have longstanding ties.

"But above all our will is to do things with our identity regardless of who the opponent is. We will play our game with attitude and responsibility, knowing that Argentina has some of the best players in the world plus Messi, who some believe is the best of all time."

Morocco has reinforced that its run to the semifinals in Qatar was no one-off, while Senegal recovered from losses to Norway and France to advance. Egypt finished second in Group G with a win and two draws, while Ivory Coast responded to a narrow defeat to Germany with wins over Curacao and Ecuador, while Algeria and Senegal also sneaked through as the sixth and eighth best third-placed teams.

South Korea, the only Asian team to have ever reached a World Cup semifinals, paid the price for fielding a much-weekend side without its captain Son Heung-min in its last group game against the Africans.

Swiatek and Zverev overcome a stern test

WIMBLEDON

Reuters
LONDON

Defending champion Iga Swiatek overcame a serious second-set wobble to reach the second round at Wimbledon on Tuesday, beating powerful American Taylor Townsend 6-1, 2-6, 6-3.

The third seed appeared overcome with emotion after match point, burying her head in a towel as she celebrated the hard-fought win.

Amanda Anisimova, last year's finalist, also advanced with a 6-3, 6-2 win over North Macedonia's Lina Gjorcheska, while Elena Rybakina, the 2022 champion, overcame a stern test from Frenchwoman Lois Boisson to reach the second round with a 6-4, 1-6, 6-3 victory.

The 2024 finalist Jasmine Paolini recovered from a nightmare start to reach the second round, fighting back to beat American Robin Montgomery.

The 13th-seeded Italian was blanked in the opening set but showed her resilience to seal a 0-6, 6-4, 7-5 victory.

Svitolina ousted

However, eighth seed Elina Svitolina became the first top-10 casualty in the women's draw, squandering a 4-0 first-set lead before fellow Ukrainian Daria Snigur rallied to claim a 7-5, 6-2 victory.

In the men's section, reigning French Open champion Alexander Zverev overcame a stern challenge from Belgium's Alexander Blockx to prevail 6-4, 6-7(8), 7-6(5), 7-6(0) in a battle lasting nearly three hours.

Finnish qualifier Otto Virtanen claimed the biggest win of his career by stunning American Ben Shelton 6-4, 3-6, 6-7(8), 6-2, 7-6(11-9) after more than four hours on the court.

Djokovic starts well

Meanwhile on Monday, Novak Djokovic launched his latest bid for a record-equalling eighth Wimbledon title and standalone 25th Grand Slam crown with a battling 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4 win over China's plucky Wu Yibing in the first round.

Still fiercely competitive at the age of 39, Djokovic is looking to equal Roger Federer's tally at the All England Club and go past Margaret Court in the all-time list of Grand Slam titles, and he showed flair and fight to stay on track.

"It's better when you win in the end. It's not the first time I'm showing and talking about the significance of Wimbledon in my career and my life," Djokovic said, before talking about playing under the Centre Court roof and lights after two sets.

"It felt really challenging today, Wu deserves a round of applause for his incredible performance. As for how I'm feeling, I'm feeling happy but not the freshest I guess. It didn't feel like the first round to be honest.

Easy for Sabalenka

The women's top seed Aryna Sabalenka, who left the French Open Paris in a 'deep, dark place' after losing the last 10 games of her quarterfinal against Diana Shnaider, breezed past Serbian qualifier Teodora Kostovic 6-2, 6-3 to start her campaign for a maiden crown.

Seventh seed Coco Gauff downed Tamara Korpatsch 6-2, 6-1 while French Open champion Mirra Andreeva, seeded five, beat Magda Linette 7-5, 6-4.

Champion stuff: Swiatek did not let a second set blip unsettle her while it was all music to Djokovic's ears as he began his quest for a record-breaking 25th Major crown. REUTERS

IMPORTANT RESULTS

First round: Men: Majchrzak (Pol) bt 30-Tabilo (Chi) 6-3, 7-5, 7-5; 5-de Minaur (Aus) bt Burruchaga (Arg) 7-6(5), 6-1, 6-0; 6-Fritz (USA) bt Lajovic (Srb) 6-3, 6-4, 6-3; Halys (Fra) bt 32-Arnaldi (Ita) 3-6, 6-1, 7-6 (5), 6-3; Munar (Esp) bt 18-Cerundolo (Arg) 6-1, 6-4, 6-3; Virtanen (Fin) bt 4-Shelton (USA) 6-4, 3-6, 6-7(8), 6-2, 7-6(9); 10-Bublik (Kaz) bt Kokkinakis (Aus) 4-6, 6-3, 6-7(10), 6-3, 6-4; Bergs (Bel) bt 27-Humbert (Fra) 6-2, 7-5, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3; 19-Khachanov bt Harris (GBr) 6-3, 5-7, 6-3, 6-3; 20-Fils (Fra) bt Collignon (Bel) 7-5, 6-1, 6-3; 15-Mensik (Cze) bt Samuel (GBr) 5-7, 6-3, 6-3, 3-6, 7-6(7); 2-Zverev (Ger) bt Blockx (Bel) 6-4, 6-7(8), 7-6(5), 7-6(0); Sonego (Ita) bt 29-Etcheverry (Arg) 6-4, 6-4, 6-7(2), 7-6(4); 7-Djokovic (Srb) bt Wu (Chn) 6-4, 5-7, 6-4, 6-4.

Women: 6-Anisimova (USA) bt Gjorcheska (MKD) 6-3, 6-2; Maria Sakkari (Gre) bt 24-Tauson (Den) 6-3, 6-3; 13-Paolini (Ita) bt Montgomery (USA) 0-6, 6-4, 7-5; 21-Bouzkova (Cze) bt Gibson (Aus) 6-1, 3-6, 6-2; 26-Keys (USA) bt Day (USA) 6-7(5), 6-4, 6-3; 3-Swiatek (Pol) bt Townsend (USA) 6-1, 2-6, 6-3; 2-Rybakina (Kaz) bt Boisson (Fra) 6-4, 1-6, 6-3; 25-Mertens (Bel) bt Siegemund (Ger) 6-2, 6-4; 23-Navarro (USA) bt Badosa (Esp) 4-6, 6-3, 7-5; Snigur (Ukr) bt 8-Svitolina (Ukr) 7-5, 6-2; 29-Eala (Phi) bt Zarazua (Mex) 6-1, 6-2; 15-Shnaider bt Lys (Ger) 7-5, 6-1; 17-Cirstea (Rou) bt Bejlek (Cze) 6-1, 7-6(6).

10-Muchova (Cze) bt Zakharova 6-3, 6-2; 5-Andreeva bt Linette (Pol) 7-5, 6-4; Bouzas Maneiro (Esp) bt 27-Potapova (Aut) 6-2, 6-3; 18-Alexandrova bt Udvardy (Hun) 6-4, 6-2; 7-Gauff (USA) bt Korpatsch (Ger) 6-2, 6-1.

Fallen seeds: Men: 4-Shelton, 18-Cerundolo, 27-Humbert, 29-Etcheverry, 30-Tabilo, 32-Arnaldi.

Women: 8-Svitolina, 24-Tauson, 27-Potapova.

I'll always remember Stokes' Headingley knock: Banton

Ashwin Achal

ENGLAND
VS
INDIA
TODAY, 9:00 PM
SONY SPORTS 1 SONY SPORTS 4 SONY SPORTS 5
ಕನ್ನಡ

Ben Stokes' magical knock at Headingley against Australia in 2019 defied all odds, as the England all-rounder, alongside No. 11 Jack Leach, pulled off one of the most improbable victories in Test history.

The innings was one of the major highlights of Stokes' career.

England batter Tom Banton said Stokes – who retired from international cricket on Monday – had a huge impact on the game, and identified the Headingley epic as his favourite moment.

"His knock at Headingley, batting with my Somerset teammate Jack Leach, is something I'll always remember. It's something me and the Somerset boys always joke about with Jack Leach in the changing room," Banton said in an online interaction on Tuesday.

Banton – who is part of the England squad that will take on India in the first T20I at Chester-le-Street on Wednesday – has been closely following the rapid rise of young India opening batter Vaibhav Sooryavanshi.

"I try and watch every time Sooryavanshi plays – whether it's in the IPL or with the India-A team.

"I think the most impressive thing is just how consistently he is doing it. He is obviously a special talent, and hopefully it continues for him," Banton said.

The 27-year-old Banton added that he hoped Sooryavanshi "gets a go" at international cricket, allowing "the world to see what he can do".

(Watch England vs. India first T20I live on July 1 from 10 p.m. IST on Sony Sports Ten 1 SD & HD and Sony Max).

SNAPSHOTS

Women in Blue secure place in LA Olympics

The Indian women's cricket team has secured a place in the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, while the men's side is in a strong position to make the cut. The ICC and the IOC announced that the men's and women's cricket competitions - which will return to the Olympics after 128 years - will feature six teams each. In the women's event, Australia, Great Britain (via England), India and South Africa have qualified as the highest-placed eligible finishers from Oceania, Europe, Asia, and Africa respectively, based on their performances in the ongoing ICC Women's T20 World Cup 2026.

Four places in the men's competition will be decided through the ICC Men's T20I rankings, with qualification spots reserved for the highest-ranked eligible teams from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Oceania as of December 31, 2026.

Reigning world champion India, currently the top-ranked men's T20I side, leads the race for qualification. The sixth spot in both competitions will be decided through the ICC Olympics Qualifier 2027, which will feature eight teams in each event. The West Indies is ineligible to participate in the Olympic Games as it represents multiple Caribbean nations and does not have recognition as an IOC National Olympic Committee.

Harmanpreet to lead India in Asian Games

Harmanpreet Kaur was on Tuesday retained as India captain for this year's Asian Games in Aichi-Nagoya, Japan.

The squad: Harmanpreet Kaur (Capt.), Smriti Mandhana (Vice-capt.), Shafali Verma, Jemimah Rodrigues, Deepti Sharma, Richa Ghosh (wk), G. Kamalini (wk), Bharti Fulmali, Shree Charani, Renuka Thakur, Kranti Gaud, Arundhati Reddy, Shreyanka Patil, Radha Yadav, and Nandni Sharma.

We want India to host FIA karting event: Akbar Ebrahim

S. Dipak Ragav
CHENNAI

Akbar.

Akbar Ebrahim, president, FIA International Karting Commission (CIK-FIA), stressed that the organisation is laser-focused on reducing the cost of karting worldwide.

List of initiatives

He listed some of the initiatives the FIA is taking, including introducing an FIA Global Kart.

"Today, if you buy a CIK-homologated chassis with a CIK-homologated engine, the kart costs between €8,000 and €10,000. Our target is to bring the cost of a complete FIA Global Kart package down to around €4,000," said Akbar on the sidelines of the first round of the Indian National karting championship recently.

Recently, Formula One champions Lewis Hamilton and Max Verstappen also spoke about the alarming rise in karting costs and the need to rein it in.

"We are trying to create an alternative pathway. FIA's Arrive and Drive is one part of it. Scholarships are another. Ultimately, though, if we want to grow participation, we need to lower the cost of kart genuinely.

"Eventually, we also want to enter the recreational karting market. That's where motor-sport begins. We want to create an intermediate step between recreational and competitive karting – a true mass-participation category.

Goal

"Our goal is to build a structured pathway from recreational karting into competitive racing while making the sport accessible to far more people," he added.

> It has always been one of our priorities because India has never hosted an FIA karting event. We have one CIK-homologated circuit at MIKA (Madras International Karting Arena), and two more could come up soon

The former FMSCI President revealed that he is working to bring an FIA-Karting event to the country.

"It has always been one of our priorities because India has never hosted an FIA karting event. We have one CIK-homologated circuit at MIKA (Madras International Karting Arena), and two more could come up soon.

"We wanted to host one this year, but because of the geopolitical situation, we couldn't.

"We definitely want India to host its first FIA Continental Arrive and Drive Championship and, eventually, the Arrive and Drive World Cup, which would be fantastic," said Akbar.

E-mail.ID-sectcrb_2006@yahoo.co.in ;
Tel/Fax – 0671-2301751/2302751

Government of Odisha

Corrigendum to Bid Identification No.CCE.Ctc.(R&B) 2/2026-27

Tender Reference - No. CCE.Ctc.(R&B) 2/2026-27

The Bid availability period and Date of opening of the tenders have been modified due to unavoidable circumstances. The modified dates ard as follows:-

Sl. No.	Bid Identification No.	Bid Availability period as per Tender Notice	Revised Bid Availability Period	Bid Opening Date as per Tender Notice	Revised Opening Date
1	CCE.Ctc.(R&B)2/ 2026-27	11.05.2026 to 5.30 Hours of 25.05.2026	04.07.2026 to 5.30 Hours of 18.07.2026	26.05.2026 at 11.00 Hours	20.07.2026 at 11.00 Hours

All other terms and conditions remain unchanged. Further details can be seen from the website **htpp://tendersodisha.gov.in**

Chief Construction Engineer,
Kataka (R&B) Circle

34001/413/2627 OIPR-34001/34012/1/26-27/0015

BENGALURU CENTRAL CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Shivajinagar Division,
Queens Road, Thimmaiah Road, Bangalore

No. EE/SJN/TEND/17/2026-27 Date: 30.06.2026

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION
(TWO COVER SYSTEM)

(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Executive Engineer (Shivajinagar), BCCC invites tenders from eligible contractors registered in BBMP/KPWD/CPWD/Railways/MES/National Highway or any state Govt. Organization for the construction of works detailed in the Table below.

Tender Document KW4.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work
1.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Gundappa Block, Pillappa Block, Marappa Thota, AVR Block, Pemmegowda Cross Roads, Hanchappa Block and Surrounding areas in Ward No: 01 Ramaswamy Palya, Improvements and Construction of Shaadi Mahal & Gym, Sports Centre at Cockburn Road Opposite to Hafeeza School Building in New Ward No.05 (Old No. 119) Shivajinagar Sub Division (Package - 01). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1000.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 10,00,000.00**
2.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Nandidurga Road from khadria Masjid to J C Nagar Police Station and surrounding areas in Ward No: 02 Jayamahal, Improvements and Construction of Football Stadium at SNT Street in New Ward No.08 (Old No.121) Halsuru Ward in Shivajinagar Constituency. (Package-02). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1000.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 10,00,000.00**
3.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Jayamahal extension. Nandidurga Extension and surrounding areas in Ward No: 02 Jayamahal Shivajinagar Sub Division and Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Chinnappa garden, UV Block, Narayanappa Block, Cresent Road, Muddamma garden extension, ITI Layout and Chinnappa Graden Link Road and Surrounding areas in Ward No: 01 Ramaswamy Palya Shivajinagar Sub Division (Package-03). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1000.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 10,00,000.00**
4.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Queens Road From Cantonment to Raj Bhavan, Edward Road, Kamalabai School Road, Shivaji Road and Surrounding areas, Raj Bhavan Road Minsk Square to Chalukya Circle, Cunningham Road upto Chandrika Hotel and Surrounding areas, 8th Main and Cross Roads, Chakravarthi Layout, Kaverappa Layout, Kumara Park, Sheshadripuram, Millers tank Bund Area and Surrounding areas in Ward No: 03 Vasanthnagar, Vasanthnagar Sub Division (Package - 04). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1200.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 12,00,000.00**
5.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at KR Circle to Vidhanasoudha Metro Station, Hudson Circle to Mission Road, Rajaram Mohan Roy road from Hudson circle to Richmond Circle and Surrounding areas, Queens Road from minks Junction to Rajaram Mohan Roy via Sir M Visvesvaraya Museum road, Siddalingaiah Circle and Vittal Malya Hospital Road, KR Circle to Cubbon Park Gate, Madhavanagara, American Colony Sindhi Colony, Chaabriya Layout, Fain Field Layout, Kumarapark Surroundings, Srikantan Layout and Surrounding areas in Ward No:04, Sampangiramanagar, Vasanthnagar Sub Division (Package-05) **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1200.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 12,00,000.00**
6.	Improvements and Construction of Drains & Roads, Asphalt Roads at Cross roads of Bowring Hospital road Cross roads and surrounding areas & Cement Concrete roads at Commercial Street cross roads, Nala Roads, Cross roads & Surrounding Area. in New Ward No.05 (Old No.119) Shivajinagar Ward, Improvements and Construction of Drains & Roads, Asphalt Roads at A.M. Road, Shivan, St. John's Church Road, Sepping Road, Thimmaiah road Cross roads, & Cement Concrete roads at Nehru Puram Area & Star Hospital Cross Roads, Fruit Street Road and cross roads & Surrounding Area in New Ward No.06 (Old No.120) Ward in Bharathi Nagara. (Package-06). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1000.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 10,00,000.00**
7.	Improvements and Construction of Drains & Roads, Asphalts Roads at St. John's road, Osborne Road & Cross Roads, Kamaraj road, Halasuru road & Internal Cement Concrete roads at At Shivan Chetty Garden, Rukmini Colony cross roads, Anna swamy Mudaliar cross roads, in Ward Kamaraj Ward No.07, Cross roads of Infantry roads, Lady Curzon road, Kamaraj Road, Commercial Steet cross roads, Dispensary Cross roads & Surrounding Area. in New Ward No.05 (Old No.119) Shivajinagar Ward in Shivajinagar Constituency. (Package-07). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1000.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 10,00,000.00**
8.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath Asphalts of Roads, Roads Drains and Footpath at & Roads, Asphalts of Roads Cross roads of Gupta Layout, Car Street, Palani Mudaliyar Street, R. K. Mutt Road, Hanumaiah, Subbaiah, Lakshmaiah Roads, and Interior Cement Concrete Cross Roads, in New Ward No.08 (Old No.121) Halasuru Ward SR Nagara Karagappa Garden, 8th Main, 19th, 20th Cross, Arasappa garden 3rd. 4th, 5th Cross roads, 4th Main and 5th main, Shrirampuram layout and Surrounding areas in Ward No:04, Sampangiramanagar, in Shivajinagar Nagar Constituency (Package 08). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 1000.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 10,00,000.00**
9.	Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roads, Drains and Footpath at Miller Road Extension, Thirumala garden, from Millers Road to Byadarahalli and surrounding areas in Ward No. 02 Jayamahal Shivajinagar 02 Jayamahal Shivajinagar Sub Division and Comprehensive Development and improvements to Roods, Drains and Footpath at Jayamahal Main Road (Palace Road), Cockburn Road, Jayamahal Extension (Crow Roads), Bore Bank Road, Benson town and surrounding areas in Ward No 102 Jayamahal Shivajinagar Sub Division (Package-09). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 800.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 8,00,000.00**
10.	Additional Garnts For Improving Women's Degree College & Women's Skill Development Centre in New Ward No.05 (Old No.119) Shivajinagar (Package 10). **Approx Value Of Work : Rs. 700.00 Lakhs. EMD : Rs. 7,00,000.00**

Calendar of Events : (1) Pre bid meeting will be held on **10.07.2026 at 03.30 PM** in the Office of the Executive Engineer, Shivajinagar Division, Thimmaiah Road, Queens Road, Bengaluru-560001 **(2)** Last Date for uploading the Filled Tender Document is **17.07.2026 upto 04.00 P.M. (3)** Date of Opening of the Technical Bid Tenders is on **18.07.2026 after 04.30 P.M.**

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Shivajinagar Division, BCCC

KERALA WATER AUTHORITY e-Tender Notice

Tender No : 05,06/SE/PHC/TSR/2026-27 **(1)** Jal Jeevan Mission - Pavaratty Water Supply Scheme - Phase III -RWPM from Thrithala pumping Station to mudavannur WTP. Interconnection work, Supplying and laying leading pipe from well to collection chamber & Clear water gravity main from Mudavannur (Thrithala) to Kootanad-Pipeline Work **(2)** JJM- WSS to Tholur, Kaiparambu, Avanur Panchayaths - Clear water pumping main **EMD** : Rs. 5,00,000/-, 2,00,000/-, **Tender fee** : Rs. 16,540/-, 11,025/-, **Last Date for submitting Tender** : 29-07-2026, 03:00 pm, Phone : 0487-2423230
Website : www.kwa.kerala.gov.in, www.etenders.kerala.gov.in
Superintending Engineer
KWA-JB-GL-6-128-2026-27 **PH Circle, Thrissur**

RAJASTHAN RAJYA VIDYUT UTPADAN NIGAM LTD.
Suratgarh Super Critical Thermal Power Station, Suratgarh-335805

E-Tender Notice

Online tenders are invited for 393(RVU2627GLOB00639) Requirement of Boiler Tubes for Boiler & 401(RVU2627GLOB00630) Requirement of Supply, erection, testing and commissioning of Mercury analysers for emission parameters at stack in unit#7&8 at STPSSC, Suratgarh. Tender details are available on websites **http//eproc.rajasthan.gov.in** for e-tender), **www.energy.rajasthan.gov.in/rvunl & www.sppp.rajasthan.gov.in.**
Raj.Samwad/C/26/5912 RVUN/PR-4419 **Project Head (STPS-SC)**

AP POWER GENERATION CORPORATION Ltd.,
VS, VIJAYAWADA-520004
(A Govt. of A.P Undertaking)

NIT No: 610002316

Name of the work: "Supply of Grinding Rolls and Bull ring Segments, Modified Air Regulatory System, Air port Ring assembly and Bowl Extension ring segments etc suitable for XRP-1003 Bowl mills of Dr.NTTPS-IV and XRP-883 Bowl mills of Dr.MVR.RTPP-II, III" through e-procurement Schedule available Date & Time : **25.06.2026-13.00 Hrs** onwards Bid submission Closing Date & Time: **20.07.2026 - 13.00 Hrs** For other details visit the website: **www.apeprocurement.gov.in**. Ph: **0866-2882614**
DIPR 5214PP/CL, Dt.30.06.2026

GOVERNMENT OF PUDUCHERRY
BUILDINGS AND ROADS DIVISION, P.W.D., KARAIKAL

e-TENDER NOTICE No.02/PW/BRK/DB/2026-27 dated 29-06-2026

On behalf of President of India, e-tenders are invited form the eligible contractors/ firms by the Executive Engineer, Buildings and Roads Division, P.W.D., Karaikal for the following work:-

Name of Work-: One-time improvements from Km.165/400 to 186/400 on NH-32 (Old NH-45A) under Annual Plan 2026- 27in Karaikal District in the UT of Puducherry--(Job No. NH-32-PU-2026-27-03). Approximate Estimated Cost: ₹.**4597.32** lakhs EMD: ₹.**45,97,000/-** & Time of completion: 12 months. Maintenance period 2 Years

Last time and date for download / sale of tender documents: up to **3.00 P.M. on 12-08-2026** and submission online upto **3.00 P.M on the same day.** Other details/ information can be seen in the website: **https://eprocure.gov.in/eprocure/app**

Sd/-
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER-B&R
No.457/Dip/KKL/ADVT/2026. P.W.D., KARAIKAL

BENGALURU SOUTH CITY CORPORATION
Office of the Executive Engineer, Electrical Division, BSCC,
9th Main, 9th Cross, Jayanagar 2nd Block, Bangalore 560011

No: BSCC/EE/V/P.R/02/2026-27 Date: 29.06.2026

CORRIGENDUM

(Through GOK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

Ref:BSCC/EE/ELE/South/TND/02/2026-27, Dated: 29.06.2026.
In relation to the above subject, the tender notice referred to was published in the same The Hindu daily on **30.06.2026,** and the following amendments have been made in relation to the said tender notice.

Sl No.	Existing Tender and EMD Amount in Tender Notification	Modified Tender and EMD Amount in Tender Notification
1.	Estimate Cost Rs. 140.00 Lakhs	Amount put to Tender Rs.118.62 Lakhs
2.	EMD Amount : Rs. 2,10,000.00	EMD Amount - Rs. 2,00,000.00

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Ele)., BSCC

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER (Only through KPP Portal)

BWSSB invites tenders in Two Stage System from eligible contractors for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer(IP,R&D), 3rd Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K.G. Road, Bengaluru - 560 009.

Sl. No.	Name of the Work	Amount put to tender / EMD
	IFT No.: No.: BWSSB/CE(IP&RD)/ACE(Cstr&DCW)/641/2026-27 Dated: 25.06.2026	
1.	Procurement of 33,000 Nos. of 15mm dia Multi Jet Class "B" Magnetic Type Water Meters conforming to IS:779/1994 & ISO:4064/2014 with its latest amendments.	Rs. 4,67,28,000/- / Rs. 7,01,000/-
	Last date for submission of completed tender documents: **21.07.2026 before 16:00 Hrs**. The technical tenders will be opened on: **22.07.2026 at 17:00 Hrs**	
	IFT No.: BWSSB/CE(IP,R&D)/ACE(IP,R&D)-2/684/2026-27 Date: 30.06.2026	
2.	Work of Providing, laying 1016 mm dia MS water supply pipeline from Sri Chaitanya Techno School to Sri Vishnu Leela Hotel along Chikkanalli main road to improve the water supply distribution from Cauvery Stage V Haddosiddapura(Doddakanhalli) 48 ML GLR to 110 villages of GBA area coming under Bommanahalli and Mahadevapura zone, BWSSB**(2nd Call)**.	Rs. 397.42 Lakhs / Rs. 5.97 Lakhs
	Last date for submission of completed tender documents: **16.07.2026 upto 16:00Hrs.** The tenders will be opened on: **17.07.2026 after 16:30Hrs.** **Sd/- Chief Engineer(IP,R&D)**	
	The details regarding the tender and participation in the e-procurement process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in.** For further details contact the above signed office during working hours. **DIPR/CP/RA/1394/2026-27**	

KARNATAKA INDUSTRIAL AREAS DEVELOPMENT BOARD
(A Government of Karnataka Undertaking)
No.2, 2/1 & 2/3, Kalidasa Marg, 1st Main Road, Gandhinagar,
Bengaluru - 560009. Phone No. 080-22265383 website : www.kiadb.in

No. IADB/ENGG/PMC/EPTND-EP-04/1856/2026-27 Date:30.06.2026

SHORT TERM NOTICE INVITING TENDER FOR PROVIDING PROJECT MANAGEMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES
(Through GOK Karnataka Public Procurement Portal Only)

KIADB is inviting tender under Quality Based Consultancy System (QCBS) as per the Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through electronic procurement from eligible Consulting Firms under two cover system for the following works:

Name of the works: (1) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Formation of Road, Construction of RCC Side Drain & Construction of Spur Culvert at Dobaspet 3rd Phase Industrial Area, Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru District. (2) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Establishment, Commissioning of 10 MLD Sewage Treatment Plant followed by 5 MLD Tertiary Treatment Plant along with 2 modules of 1.50 MLD each Common Effluent Treatment Plant with 1.50 MLD Capacity RO System & ZLD Facilities on total turnkey basis, including Operation & Maintenance of entire Plant for a period of 10 years at KWIN City at Phase-1 in Nelamangala Taluk, Bengaluru Rural District. (3) Project Management Consultancy Services for the work of Survey, Investigation, Design, Supply, Installation, Erection, Laying, Construction and Commissioning of MS Pipe Rising Main from IPS-03 to Malur and Other Industrial Areas, Land Acquisition, 5 years of O&M for Providing & supplying fresh water to the industrial areas in districts around Bengaluru on EPC Basis. (Package-4) (2nd Call)

- Last Date and Time for Receipt of Tenders: **17.07.2026** upto **4:00** pm.

Applicants may download bidding documents from the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/-
Engineer-In-Chief,
DIPR/CP/1396/CCL/2026-27 **KIADB**

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Yodhas score one-run win over Mystics

Ambareesh holds his nerve at the crunch as Pandey nearly pulls off a heist; both the Shivamogga side and the Gulbarga outfit are level on six points

Sports Bureau

Shivamogga Yodhas beat Gulbarga Mystics by one run in the Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20 in Hubballi on Tuesday.

Chasing 128 from 12 overs (revised from 181 in 20 overs after rain affected play), the seasoned Manish Pandey (36 n.o., 13b, 1x4, 4x6) nearly pulled off a heist.

The equation was down to 39 runs from the last two overs and 26 from the final six deliveries.

Pandey smashed the first two balls from K. Ambareesh's last over for a six and a four, but a pair of singles meant the Mystics needed 14 more.

Pandey hit two sixes, but Ambareesh, by bowling two legal balls, rendered the maximums academic.

With their third victory from seven matches, the Yodhas are now on six points while the Mystics, after their fourth loss, are level.

Earlier for the Yodhas, wicketkeeper-bat Luvnith Sisodia scored a brisk 18-ball 31 (2x4, 3x6) only for a middle-order slump to peg the side back (105 for five in 12.1 overs).

Sujay Sateri, however, came to the rescue (47 n.o., 30b, 7x4, 1x6) by combining for a 69-run stand with Yashovardhan Parantap (25, 19b, 2x4).

In the end, their effort proved just about enough.

The scores: Shivamogga Yodhas 180/7 in 20 overs (Sujay Sateri 47 n.o.) bt Gulbarga Mystics 126/7 in 12 overs [By one run via VJD method, after target was revised to 128 in 12 overs owing to rain].

Coastal Kings Mangaluru 161/9 in 19 overs (Karun Nair 48) lost to Mysore Warriors 167/8 in 18.5 overs (Ritesh Bhatkal 66, Shreyas Gopal 4/37) [Match reduced to 19 overs because of rain].

Rescue act: Sujay smashed an unbeaten 47 off 30 balls to lift Yodhas. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

India were unprofessional, their attitude condescending

BETWEEN WICKETS
Suresh Menon

Two images summed up India's attitude towards Ireland. One, their captain Shreyas Iyer's disdain at the end of the first loss by 34 runs. Swaying his hips casually when being interviewed at the presentation ceremony, he seemed more focused on the poor start to his captaincy career than on giving the opponents any credit. There was no mention of Ireland's effort at all. No "They played well and deserved the win", not even a simple "well done".

By the second loss, someone seems to have spoken to him. This time there was acknowledgment that actually two teams had played the match (and only one had won). Sport is a great leveller, and if you disrespect either the game or your opponent, it has a way of letting you know.

The second set of images were the promos on Indian television. This is a recent phenomenon where channels whip up frenzy by whipping the opponents in language and image that is incredibly puerile and downright embarrassing. Neither the game nor its players nor indeed the fans deserve to be treated with such contempt. Not funny, not clever, and in keeping with a particular brand of jingoism that suggests we are the greatest in everything we do (not just in sport), and need to beat our drum on every occasion. The best don't need such accompaniment.

India's attitude suggested the series would be a walk in the park, they were doing Ireland a favour by playing them, they could have fielded their third team and won. No one articulated any of this, of course, but the mindset was clear – condescending, dismissive, suggesting that merely to turn up was to win.

Obviously Ireland were more comfortable playing at home and knew exactly what to do. Their medium pacers bowled the right length, slightly short, to get batters to play square of the wicket where the boundaries were farther away. They outplayed India and deserved the win in the "greatest weekend in Irish cricket," as someone put it.

Conditions were different, not impossible. India are the reigning world champions, and for champions every venue should be a home ground. Condescension is a cousin of unprofessionalism. Things don't just happen in sport, they have to be made to happen. Ireland were more professional, better led and had a set of coaches more keenly attuned to the needs of the competition.

The question India will be asking is not if Vaibhav Sooryavanshi should have played (he should have), but what the coaching staff was up to. India didn't lose because of their television channels or their own attitude. They lost because the coaches took a while to figure out where to bowl and how to bat on a ground where the straight boundaries were shorter than the square ones. The batters were either in too much of a hurry, too keen to lay out their six-hitting wares or too unwilling to believe that any team could actually beat them.

Wickets in Ireland are not like those in the IPL which are consistently batter-friendly. Technique and temperament are constantly questioned. Perhaps India missed the range of batters like K.L. Rahul or Shubman Gill who are world class whatever the colour of the ball.

Ireland are ranked eleventh in the world, India are No. 1. Cricket is not Ireland's main sport. In the *Irish Times* newspaper, it figures behind Gaelic Games, World Cup Football, rugby, golf, and racing. Their historic win appears under 'More Sport'.

Where do India go from here? There is no need to panic as they arrive in England for the first of five T20s. Skipper Shreyas' form as well as that of the openers is a worry. Still, the new captain needs to be given a decent run in the job. Redemption might be just round the corner.

National coach Gautam Gambhir has now presided over two home whitewashes in Test cricket, against New Zealand and South Africa, and now this. Perhaps it is time to split the coach's job, and have different coaches for Test cricket and the white ball game. Coaching is a high pressure job and coaches need to be rested in the same way that fast bowlers are today.

Hardik makes CoE permanent training base

Press Trust of India
NEW DELHI

Star all-rounder Hardik Pandya has shifted base to Bengaluru with the aim of making the BCCI's Centre of Excellence (CoE) his permanent training base for the remainder of his career. The move is unique as India's centrally-contracted players normally visit the CoE only for injury rehabilitation, fitness assessments or national camps.

Though Hardik is originally from Baroda, he has spent most of the last decade living in Mumbai and training primarily at IPL franchise Mumbai Indians' facility in Ghansoli.

The 32-year-old, who is currently recovering from a quadriceps injury, has spent considerable time at the CoE over the last six months.

"Hardik has already permanently shifted to Bengaluru. He will be the first Indian cricketer to make the CoE his permanent training base for the remainder of his career," said a BCCI source.

Hardik. FILE PHOTO

LIVE TELECAST

FIFA World Cup: Unite8 Sports 1, 2 & Z5 App, 6.30 a.m. 9.30 p.m. 1.30 & 5.30 a.m. (Thursday)
Wimbledon: Star Sports 2, SS Select 1, 2 & JioHotstar, 3.30 p.m.
England vs India: First T20I, Sony Sports Ten 1 & JioHotstar, 10 p.m.

Cabinet expansion plan gathers pace as CM set for Delhi visit

Proposed expansion expected to address regional imbalances, accommodate community and factional considerations

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

With a large number of MLAs lobbying for ministerial berths, the expansion of Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar's Cabinet has emerged as one of the most delicate political exercises for the ruling Congress, with the party leadership attempting to contain the expectations of a large number of aspirants.

Sources said Mr. Shivakumar is expected to leave for New Delhi next week, along with KPCC president B.K. Hariprasad and former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah.

The leaders are expected to discuss the Cabinet expansion with the Congress high command, including Rahul Gandhi and Mallikarjun Kharge.

Former Chief Minister Siddaramaiah during a meeting with Congress leaders on Tuesday. The proposed Cabinet expansion has given the Congress leadership a 'delicate' task of balancing seniority and generational change. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Delayed expansion

Although the ministry currently has only 14 members against the constitutionally permitted strength of 34, the long-awaited expansion has been delayed by a few days owing to Mr. Gandhi's foreign tour.

Mr. Gandhi is expected to be in Delhi after July 5, sources said.

The Congress is expected to induct one or two representatives from the Muslim community, besides accommodating legislators who have not been made Ministers so far. Among the frontrunners from the minority community are Saleem Ahmed, MLC, and Rizwan Arshad, Shivajinagar MLA.

Senior legislators such as Laxman Savadi, Ajay Singh, Sharat Bache Gowda, Appaji Nadagouda, A.S. Ponnanna and K.M. Shivalinge Gowda are also among those being considered for Cabinet berths. Highlighting the competing demands from different communities, the Chief Minister said, "Members of the Vokkaliga, Lingayat and Muslim communities are each suggesting one name. In such a situation, it becomes difficult to make a political decision."

The leadership is also deliberating on the number of MLCs to be inducted into the ministry. Urban Development Minister Yathindra Siddaramaiah is currently the only MLC in the Cabinet.

Women aspirants

Among women legislators, the names of former Minister Laxmi Hebbalkar and Nayana Motamma are also under consideration. Several districts were left without Cabinet representation when the ministry was formed. The proposed expansion is expected to address these regional imbalances while also accommodating community and factional considerations.

A senior party functionary said the Congress leadership faces the delicate task of balancing seniority with generational change by accommodating experienced legislators while creating space for younger leaders and first-time Ministers. Any perceived imbalance, the leader said, could fuel discontent within the party.

Political risks

Party leaders acknowledge that the exercise carries political risks. Excluding influential legislators could deepen factional grievances and weaken organisational cohesion, while appointments perceived as favouring particular communities or power centres may trigger fresh rounds of lobbying and discontent. The choices made during the Cabinet expansion are expected to have a significant bearing not only on the credibility of the government but also on the Congress's political prospects in Karnataka for the remainder of its term.

Monsoon: State gets 116 mm of rain in June, a departure of -42%

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Karnataka has recorded 116 mm of rainfall as against the normal 199 mm during June.

According to the Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre's (KSNDMC) June rainfall pattern, there has been a departure of -42%.

India Meteorological Department (IMD) scientist C.S. Patil said the monsoon is expected to revive this week.

Data for June 2026 reveals that south-interior Karnataka has received 62 mm as against the normal 66 mm, a departure of -5%, while north-interior Karnataka received 74 mm against 103 mm, a departure of -28%.

Malnad and the coastal regions have recorded 152 mm and 420mm, respectively, as against the normal 363 mm and 832 mm, reflecting departures of -58% and -42%.

During June, six taluks received large excess rainfall, while 24 and 59 taluks recorded excess and normal rainfall, respectively.

The data stated that 120 taluks received deficit rainfall, and 31 recorded large deficit rainfall.

Mr. Patil said that coastal, Malnad and north Karnataka districts are expected to receive heavy rainfall in the coming days while rainfall would be normal in south-interior Karanataka.

The forecast for Bengaluru and the neighbourhood for the next couple of days is a generally cloudy sky and light rain, with sustained wind of 30-40 kmph likely in some areas.

The maximum and minimum temperature is likely to be around 29°C and 21°C respectively.

Vehicles plying on the Mysuru Road flyover during heavy rains that lashed Bengaluru on Monday evening. K. MURALI KUMAR

Rain in districts in June

- **Deficit:** Vijayapura, Dharwad, Gadag, Belagavi, Koppal, Kalaburagi, Bidar, Hassan, Uttara Kannada, Udupi, Davangere, Haveri, Mysuru, Dakshina Kannada and Shivamogga
- **Large deficit:** Chikkamagaluru, Vijayanagara and Kodagu
- **Normal:** Bengaluru Urban, Bengaluru South, Kolar, Mandya, Ballari, Bagalkot, Chitradurga, Chamarajanagar, Yadgir and Raichur
- **Excess:** Tumakuru, Chickballapur and Bengaluru Rural

BJP MLA takes 'truth test' at Dharmasthala temple to deny cross-voting

The Hindu Bureau
MANGALURU

Amid much debate over cross-voting by some BJP and Janata Dal (Secular) MLAs in the recently held Legislative Council elections, BJP MLA for Belur H.K. Suresh visited Dharmasthala Manjunatha Swamy Temple on Tuesday, and took a "truth test" to state that he did not indulge in cross-voting.

The MLA who arrived at the temple town with more than 300 supporters in over 100 cars also met D. Veerendra Heggade, pattadhikari of the temple, who is also a Rajya Sabha member. After having darshan of the deity, the MLA performed a special puja. The MLA and his supporters also made offerings to the 'hundi.'

The MLA told mediapersons that he prayed for the well-being of those who had spread propaganda against him. "I am a loyal BJP worker and have not betrayed the party. I did not cross-vote in the Legislative Council elections. I swear in the presence of Manjunatha Swamy that I voted for the person suggested by the party leaders," he said.

He also offered a prayer at Annappasamy Hill and announced that he "did not cheat". "May God give wisdom to those who spread propaganda," he said, breaking a coconut.

BJP MLA for Belur H.K. Suresh and his supporters at the Dharmasthala Manjunatha Swamy Temple on Tuesday.

'Resume safaris at tiger reserves with safety measures in place'

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar on Tuesday instructed Forest Department officials to resume safari and eco-tourism activities in Bandipur and Nagarhole tiger reserves, while strictly adhering to all necessary safety precautions.

Presiding over the first meeting of the State Wildlife Board under his chairmanship, Mr. Shivakumar said all safety measures should be put in place to ensure that tourist safety is not compromised.

Officials informed him that the density of tigers and leopards in the eco-tourism and safari zones of Bandipur and Nagarhole is high. They said that the development of the Bangalore-Mysore Infrastructure Corridor has obstructed the traditional movement routes of elephants, tigers and leopards. As a result, wild animals were moving out of forest areas towards Channapatna and Bengaluru South.

Members said that despite instructions for the removal of dead and dried trees and branches within GBA limits, incidents of trees falling during rain and strong winds continued. Mr. Shivakumar directed officials to accord priority to public safety and take measures to remove hazardous trees.

Twin probes ordered into Davangere hospital oxygen cylinder explosion

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State Health Department has ordered two separate inquiries into the oxygen cylinder explosion inside the operation theatre of the Chigateri District Hospital in Davangere.

Health Minister U.T. Khader told *The Hindu* that he has directed officials to ascertain the exact cause of the incident.

"There were no casualties as surgeries for the day had not yet commenced. *Prima facie*, the incident appears to have been caused by a short circuit. I have directed the Principal Secretary to conduct an audit of electrical systems in all hospitals run by the Health Department," he said. He added that he had ordered the constitution of a high-level State inquiry committee to conduct a detailed investigation into the circumstances leading to the explosion.

A separate inquiry will be conducted at the district level. He has asked both the probe teams to submit their reports within 15 days.

State govt. extends deadline for general transfers

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has again extended the deadline for general transfers of its staff for 2026-27.

Notification

According to a notification issued on Tuesday, the deadline has now been extended till July 15.

The government had allowed general transfers for this year from April 15 to May 31.

Later, the deadline was extended till June 30.

However, citing administrative requirements, the government has again extended the deadline now.

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is hereby brought to the notice of the general public that my Client is intending to purchase the immovable property described in the schedule below from **Mr. Vikram Nitte Arunachal,** who claims to be the lawful owner thereof.

SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of apartment bearing Flat No. A1, on the first floor of the multi-storeyed Apartment complex known as Azure Prime Apartment along with two contiguous car parking lots in the basement and 817.8 square feet of undivided interest share and title in property bearing Corporation No. 2, (old No. 4), situated at Prime Street, Civil Station, Division No. 76, Richmond Road, Bengaluru – 560 025 bearing bifurcation Khata No. 2/3 and PID No. 76-49-2/3 with a super built up area of 1,922 square feet.

North : Prime Street.
South : Mr. Dan's Property on Rhenius Street.
East : Property bearing No.3, Prime Street.
West: Property bearing No. 1, Prime Street.

Any person(s), bank(s), financial institution(s), or entity having any claim, right, title, interest, lien, charge, mortgage, encumbrance, inheritance claim, litigation, acquisition proceedings, or any other objection whatsoever in respect of the aforesaid property are hereby called upon to notify the undersigned in writing, together with supporting documentary evidence, **within 7 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which, it shall be presumed that no person has any claim or objection regarding the said property, and my client shall proceed with the purchase transaction. Any claim received thereafter shall not be binding upon my client.

For any objections or claims, please contact:

B.V. Nidhishree, Advocate
Chambers: F-02, 2nd Floor, Benson Boulevard No.77/1, Nandidurga Road, Benson Town, Bengaluru 560 046
Tel/Fax: 080 4166 8469

Place: Bengaluru, Date: 01.07.2026

ನಗರಸಭಾ ಕಾರ್ಯಾಲಯ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ
ಅಂಬೇಡ್ಕರ್ ರಸ್ತೆ, ಆನೇಕಲ್ ತಾಲ್ಲೂಕು, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು ನಗರ ಜಿಲ್ಲೆ.
ದೂ: 080-27833730 E-Mail: itstaff_ulb_hebbagodi@yahoo.com | Website: www.hebbagodicity.mrc.gov.in
ಸಂ:ಹೆ.ನ.ಸ/ತಾ.ಶಾ/ಟೆ.ನೋ/ಎಆರ್/03/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29.06.2026

ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ ನಗರಸಭೆ ವ್ಯಾಪ್ತಿಯಲ್ಲಿ 2026-27 ನೇ ಸಾಲಿನ ನಗರಸಭಾ ನಿಧಿ ಅಡಿಯಲ್ಲಿ **04 ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಗಳ** ಅನುಷ್ಠಾನಕ್ಕೆ ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ನಿಯಮ 1999 ಮತ್ತು ನಿಯಮಾವಳಿ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಲಾಗಿದೆ. **ಕ್ರ.ಸಂ. 1 ರಿಂದ 04 ರವರೆಗಿನ** ಪೂರ್ಣಾವಧಿ ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು **ದಿನಾಂಕ:29.06.2026 ರಿಂದ ದಿನಾಂಕ:14.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆಯವರೆಗೆ** ಕೆ.ಪಿ.ಪಿ ಪೋರ್ಟಲ್ ನಲ್ಲಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 14.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5:00 ಗಂಟೆ** ಹಾಗೂ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ತೆರೆಯುವ **ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15.07.2026 ಸಂಜೆ 5.30 ಗಂಟೆ** ನಂತರ ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಹೆಚ್ಚಿನ ಮಾಹಿತಿಗಾಗಿ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಲ್ಲಿ ಹಾಗೂ ಕಛೇರಿಯ ಸೂಚನಾ ಫಲಕದಲ್ಲಿ ವೀಕ್ಷಿಸಬಹುದು.
ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ನ ಕನಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ 40.50 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಮತ್ತು ಗರಿಷ್ಠ ಮೊತ್ತ ರೂ 48.00 ಲಕ್ಷಗಳು ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ

1	DMA/2026-27/WS/WORK_INDENT60397	3	DMA/2026-27/WS/WORK_INDENT60404
2	DMA/2026-27/WS/WORK_INDENT60399	4	DMA/2026-27/WS/WORK_INDENT60390

ಸಹಿ/-
ಶ್ರೀಮತಿ ಸುಜಾತ ಕೆ.ಪಿ ರಾಜು
ಪ್ರಭಾರ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಶ್ರೀ ಸಂತೋಷ್ ನಾರಾಯಣಪ್ಪ
ಸ್ಥಾಯಿ ಸಮಿತಿ ಅಧ್ಯಕ್ಷರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಶ್ರೀ ರಾಜೇಂದ್ರ ಬಿ.ಎಲ್,
ಪೌರಾಯುಕ್ತರು
ನಗರಸಭೆ, ಹೆಬ್ಬಗೋಡಿ.

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/ಜೆಎ/1401/2026-27

District Urban Development Cell, Ballari

Ref no: DUDCBallari/IC/tender / 02 /2026-27 Date : As-E-Signed

"TENDER NOTIFICATION (Two Cover System)"

The Deputy Commissioner, Ballari District, invites tenders in a two-cover system using standard service tender documents from eligible service providers for Providing Catering Services for Indira Canteens within the limits of City Corporation Ballari, CMC Siruguppa, TMC Kampli, Sandur, Kurugodu, Kurekuppa, and TP Tekkalakote & Kudathini in Ballari District.The details of the work packages are outlined below:

Name of the Works & Indent No: 01 PACKAGE-1: Providing Catering Service For Indira Canteen in the limits of CC Ballari, in Ballari District.(Indent No: DMA/2026-27/SE7721Call-02). **Amount put to tender (Rs in Lakhs): 2,60,24,500/-. EMD (in.Rs): 3,90,370/-**

02.PACKAGE-2: Providing Catering Service For Indira Canteen in the limits of CMC Siruguppa, TMC Sandur, TMC Kampli, Kurekuppa, Kurugodu & TP Tekalakote, Kuduthini in Ballari District.(Indent No: DMA/2026-27/SE7718Call-02). **Amount put to tender (Rs in Lakhs): 3,03,24,200/-. EMD (in.Rs): 4,54,870/-**

Dates & Schedule

- Last date & time for tender queries / clarifications: **15.07.2026 | 16:30 Hrs**
- Last date and time for receipt of tender technical bids: **24.07.2026 | 16:30 Hrs**
- Date & time for opening of Technical Bids: **27.07.2026 | 11:00 Hrs**
- Date & time for opening of Financial Bids: **29.07.2026 | 11:00 Hrs**
- Auto-extension of tender schedule: **02 Days**

General Instructions: • E-Procurement Portal: Interested service providers/agencies wishing to participate in this tender must register and submit their bids through the Karnataka Public Procurement Portal at: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/. • Terms & Conditions: All other terms, conditions, and eligibility criteria mentioned in the original tender document remain unchanged. • Contact & Assistance: For further details, clarifications, or technical assistance, please contact the EE/AEE of the office at +91 7760848568 / +91 8105972226, or visit the office of the Project Director during standard working hours.

DIPR/Ballari/2026-27/KSMCA/ RO No/286

Sd/-Project Director
District Urban Development Cell, Ballari.

Government of Karnataka
BIDAR CITY CORPORATION BIDAR
Phone: 08482-240432 Fax: 08482-240432
Web Site:www.bidarcity.mrc.gov.in E-mail ID:itstaff_ulb-bidar@yahoo.com, ka.bidar.cmc@gmail.com

No: BMC/ENG/ELE/CR-24/2026-27 Dated:- 30-06-2026

NOTIFICATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

1) Name of work DMA/2026-27/EL/WORK_INDENT59531, 2) Estimated cost As per Kppp-portal, 3) Eligibility of Agency / Consultant As per Kppp-portal, 4) EMD amount As per Kppp-portal, 5) Last date for submission of tender **07-07-2026 upto 04.00 PM,** 6) Technical bid opening **08-07-2026 at 04.30 PM,** 7) Address for communication Commissioner,City Corporation, Bidar, Pin code 585401, Email : ka.bidar.cmc@gmail.com, 8) Website https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/

Sd/- Commissioner
City Corporation, Bidar

DIPR/Bidar/74/KSMC&A/2026-27

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ
3, 4ನೇ ಮಹಡಿ, ಕಾವೇರಿ ಭವನ, ಕೆ.ಜಿ. ರಸ್ತೆ, ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು-560 009.

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಕಗೃಮಂ/ಕಾ/ಹಂಚಿಕೆ/ಪ.ಪ್ರ/100/2026-27 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30-06-2026

ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ

ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿಯು ರಾಜ್ಯದ ವಿವಿಧ ಬಡಾವಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಲಭ್ಯವಿರುವ ನಾಗರೀಕ ಸೌಲಭ್ಯದ ನಿವೇಶನಗಳನ್ನು ಹಂಚಿಕೆ ಮಾಡಲು ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿಗಳನ್ನು ಆಹ್ವಾನಿಸಿ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26-05-2026ರಂದು ವಿವಿಧ ದಿನಪತ್ರಿಕೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆ ನೀಡಿದ್ದು, ನೋಂದಣಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರಂಭಿಕ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊತ್ತದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 30-06-2026 ಆಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ. ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕರ ಹಿತದೃಷ್ಟಿಯಿಂದ **ನೋಂದಣಿ ಶುಲ್ಕ ಮತ್ತು ಆರಂಭಿಕ ಠೇವಣಿ ಮೊತ್ತದೊಂದಿಗೆ ಆನ್‌ಲೈನ್ ಮೂಲಕ ಅರ್ಜಿ ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಲು ಕೊನೆಯ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 15-07-2026 ರವರೆಗೆ ಕಾಲಾವಕಾಶ ವಿಸ್ತರಿಸಲಾಗಿರುತ್ತದೆ.** ಉಳಿದಂತೆ ದಿನಾಂಕ: 26-05-2026ರ ಪ್ರಕಟಣೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ತಿಳಿಸಿರುವ ಷರತ್ತು ಮತ್ತು ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಯಾವುದೇ ಬದಲಾವಣೆ ಇರುವುದಿಲ್ಲ.

ಸಹಿ/-
ಗೃಹ ಆಯುಕ್ತರು,
ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಗೃಹ ಮಂಡಳಿ,
ಬೆಂಗಳೂರು

ವಾಸಾಸಂಇ/ವಾಪ್ರ/1407/ಎಂಎಎ/2026-27

Government of Karnataka
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION, KALABURAGI

No : EE/PRED/KLB/KKRDB /TS/2026-27/1362 Date : 25/06/2026

TENDER NOTIFICATION CALL-2
(Through E-Procurement Two Cover System)

1. Name of work : 1) Construction of additional one class room library and science lab play ground with swing, slides and other equipment, compound wall installation of rain water harvesting system, science lab equipment and interactive desktop computer with all in one printer for Govt. boys High School building at Ijeri village in Jewargi Taluka Indent No. 21846/Call -2, 2. **Head of account : KKRDB,** 3. Amount put to tender **: Rs.79,91,856.59,** 4. Class of Contractor : Class-III and Above, 5. Issue of Blank Tender Documents **: 25.06.2026 to 03.07.2026 upto 4.00 pm,** 6. Tender Form Fee : As per KPPP Norms, 7.E.M.D. Fee **: Rs.1,60,000.00,** 8.Receipt of completed tender documents **: 25.06.2026 to 03.07.2026 upto 4.00 pm,** 9.Technical Bid Opening Date : **04-07-2026 After 4.00 pm,** 10. Financial Bid opening Date : **06-07-2026 After 11.00 am,** 11 : For more details contact : Office of the Executive Engineer, Panchayat Raj Engineering Division Opp: Karnataka Grameen Bank (PKGB) Head office, Kusnoor Road, Rajapur Kalaburagi , 12. Website Address : www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in

DIPR/Kalaburagi/ 265/
Deshpande Publicity/2026-27

Sd/- **Executive Engineer,**
Panchayat Raj Engineering Division, Kalaburagi

A Space Marketing Initiative

THANK YOU DOCTORS

"Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?"

HAPPY DOCTORS' DAY

*Data on file

CARDIOLOGIST

Dr. Prof. G. G. Shetty

The good cardiologist treats the disease; the caring cardiologist treats the patient who has the disease.

Dr. Rahul S Patil

Don't ignore small health concerns—they can become serious when neglected. What seems minor today may be an early warning sign tomorrow. Regular check-ups, timely medical advice, and early diagnosis help prevent complications and protect your health and future.

Dr. Niranjan K Reddy

Time is Muscle, Early detection and treatment of a heart attack can save precious lives, Regular heart health check-ups help detect heart disease at an early stage. A healthy heart is the engine that drives a healthy life.

Dr. Prashant Ramdas Wankhade

A healthy lifestyle today can help prevent complicated treatments tomorrow.

Dr. Chethan Kumar HB

Protect your health with the same dedication you give your dreams. Good health is the foundation of success and happiness. Prioritize regular check-ups, exercise, healthy habits, proper nutrition, and rest—because your greatest asset is a healthy body and mind.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad H

This Doctor's Day, my advice is simple: don't take your health for granted. Good health is one of life's greatest blessings, yet it is often overlooked until a problem arises. Small symptoms, unhealthy habits, and missed check-ups can gradually lead to serious health issues over time.

Dr. Venkatesh T.K

Your Heart is Working 24/7. Protect It While You Work. Remember to move more,Sleep better,Eat smarter, Stress less, & Get yourself checked regularly. Technology will continue to evolve, but human biology remains unchanged. The challenge for the modern workforce is to enjoy the benefits of digital connectivity without sacrificing long-term heart health. Prevention starts with awareness, and awareness starts today.

Dr. Veeresh Hubbali

Medicine is not just a profession; it is lifelng commitment to serve, heal, and stand by people in their mst vulnerable moments.

Dr. Umesh Gupta

This Doctors' Day, remember that good health begins with prevention. Regular health check-ups, a balanced diet, daily exercise, adequate sleep and timely medical advice can help detect illnesses early and ensure a healthier and happier life.

Dr. K.R.Sunil Kumar

A big thank you to all Doctors for your selfless service and unwavering commitment to improving lives. Happy Doctor's Day!

Dr Suraj Kumar Kulkarni

Don't make health your priority only when it becomes your problem.

Dr. Madhukara H M

This world has become a better and healthier place to live in with Doctors bringing the joy of health and goodness to our lives. Happy Doctorâ€™s Day!

Dr. D. Ramesh

The world is healthier and stronger because of dedicated Doctors like you. Happy Doctor's Day!

Dr. MD Ahmed

Medicine is your profession, but healing is your gift. Happy Doctor's Day.

Dr. Sathyavathi S

Excellence in medicine begins with dedication and thrives through compassion. Thank you for exemplifying both.

Dr. Manjula H S

We thank you for your empathy, dedication, and hard work in improving countless lives. Happy Doctor's Day!

Dr. Chaitra D

On this Doctor's Day, let us remember that heart attacks can be prevented through healthy living and timely action. Awareness, early diagnosis, and prompt treatment save lives. Take care of your heart—it is the engine of life.

Dr. Mounika Guptha

If I could prescribe one thing to everyone, it would be balanceâ€"in food, work, sleep, and life.

GASTROENTEROLOGIST

Dr. Anupama. V. Hegde

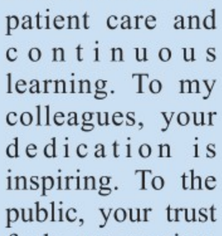
Doctors don't just add years to life; they add life to years. Thank you for your service.

Dr. Adarsh C K

On Doctors' Day, we celebrate healing hands dedicated to saving lives with compassion and care.

Dr. Gnanendra D Mariyanna

On Doctors' Day, celebrate our commitment to patient care and continuous learning. To my colleagues, your dedication is inspiring. To the public, your trust fuels our passion. Remember, "prevention is better than cure." Here's to health, healing, and hope. "Happy Doctors day"



Dr. Puneeth B S

Healing begins when science meets compassion, and a doctor listens with both knowledge and empathy.

Dr. Raghu BM

Behind every recovery is a doctors dedication thank you for making the world healthier & happier

Dr. Deepak Ganga

To cure sometimes, to relieve often, to comfort always.

Dr. Vinod Gowda KH

A healthy gut is the foundation of a healthy life. Don't ignore digestive symptoms—early consultation and timely care can prevent serious disease.

Dr. Amarnath A

Regular screening healthy and informed

Dr. M Pavan Kumar

Behind every diagnosis lies a human story. Our greatest responsibility is not only to treat disease, but to restore confidence, comfort and hope.

Dr. Rithu Sabastian

Nourish your gut wisely with love.

Dr. Harish Kulkarni

Eat healthy exercise heartily add life to years

Dr. Vinay V

Your Gut is the silent god of health

Dr. Rajesh BS

Your gut is the silent guardian of health & body's second brain. Nourish it wisely with care listen to its signals & whispers respect its power & there by prevent disease before symptoms speak

Dr. P Rupesh Kalyan

Keep your gut healthy & have a healthier life.

Dr. T H Anjanappa

Your health journey is our priority. Every step toward better digestive health is a step toward a better life.

NEUROLOGIST

Dr. Amar B R

My Greatest Reward As A Doctor Is Witnessing My Patient'S Recovery & Knowing That I Have Played A Part In Restoring Patient'S Health.

Dr. Balaji B S

Doctors Are True Heroes Without Caps, Thank You For Your Unwavering Dedication, Compassionate Care, And Tireless Efforts In Keeping Communities Healthy And Safe.

Dr. Esther Rani

Sharing Heartfelt Gratitude To All The Doctors Who Work Tirelessly To Keep Person Healthy. Your Dedication And Selflessness Are Unparalleled. Happy Doctor'S Day!

Dr. Gurucharan Adoor

Happy Doctor'S Day To Compassionate Doctors Who Give The Gift Of Healthier Tomorrows Through Their Selfless Care, Dedication, And Lasting Impact On Countless Lives.

Dr. J B Agadi

Heartfelt Gratitude To All Doctors For Tirelessly Serving Humanity, Promoting Public Health, And Delivering Compassionate Care With Dedication, Excellence, And Kindness Every Day.

Dr. M Srinivas

Sharing Warm Wishes And Heartfelt Gratitude To All Doctors On Doctor'S Day. Your Expertise, Compassion, And Selfless Care Make The World Healthier And Better.

NEUROLOGIST

Dr. Madhusudhan BK

The Entire Nation Expresses Heartfelt Gratitude To All Doctors For Their Dedicated Service, Compassion, And Unwavering Commitment Towards Improving Health And Well-Being Of Every Citizen.

Dr. Mahendra J V

Warm Wishes On Doctor'S Day To All Doctors Whose Unwavering Dedication And Tireless Efforts, Day And Night, Bring Health, Happiness, And Hope To Patients.

Dr. Naeem Sadiq

On Doctor'S Day, We Honour And Appreciate Doctors For Their Unwavering Commitment, Selfless Service, And Relentless Efforts In Safeguarding Health And Well-Being.

Dr. R. Srinivasa

Warm Wishes On Doctor'S Day To All Doctors Whose Selfless Dedication, Compassion, And Relentless Efforts Day And Night Brings Healing, Hope, And Healthier Lives.

Dr. Raghunandan Nadig

Wishing A Fantastic Doctor'S Day To The Compassionate Healers Who Tirelessly Work To Keep People Healthy.

Dr. Vishal Chandra Sharma

To Our Modern-Day Heroes, Thank You For Your Unmatched Compassion, Courage, And Sacrifice. Wishing You And Your Families Health, Happiness, And Blessings.

A Space Marketing Initiative

PEDIATRIC NEUROLOGIST

Dr. Narendra BR

Happy Doctor'S Day To The Superheroes Who Don'T Wear Caps But Save Lives Every Day. Your Dedication And Sacrifice Are Truly Admirable.

RHEUMATOLOGIST

Dr. Vijay K.R. Rao

A doctor's mission is not to prevent death but to improve the quality of life." As rheumatologists, we restore mobility, comfort, and independence.

Dr. Manisha Ashwin Daware

Stay informed, stay proactive, and take charge of your health. Your health is your greatest wealth- Dr.Manisha Ashwin Daware, Consultant Rheumatologist, Bengaluru

Dr. Chethana Dharmapalaiah

Healing with empathy, guided by science—proud to serve humanity. This Doctor's Day, we celebrate advancing rheumatology care, restoring mobility, and improving lives.

Dr. Sumana B

In rheumatology, we often treat what is invisible. Honoured to give voice to silent suffering and help patients regain comfort, confidence, and mobility.

Dr. Abhishek G P

As heumatologists, we don't just treat autoimmune diseases—we help patients reclaim the lives inflammation tried to steal, restoring mobility, independence, and hope.

PULMONOLOGIST

Dr. Shivaraj Kumar K V

Behind evay prescription is years of research. Science Saves, awareness Sustains!

ORTHOPAEDICIAN

Dr. Rajaneesh B

Strong bones and healthy joints are the foundation of an active life. Don't ignore pain—early treatment prevents lifelong problems

Dr. Anil Kumar

Healing takes time, and patience is the most important medicine you can take. Success isn't just a successful surgery; it's the hard work in physical therapy.

Dr. Nikhil Sanaba Paramesh

On This Doctor's Day I Wish all my Professional Colleagues and Upcoming Graduates a very Happy Doctor's Day. Let's Shine towards Medical Excellence and Professional Success

Dr. Gaurav Sharma

Orthopaedic health isn't just about treating injuries — it's about prevention. Small daily habits like good posture, regular movement, proper nutrition, and early consultation with an orthopaedic surgeon can keep you pain-free and mobile for life.

Dr. B A Gopal Krishna

Movement is life's greatest freedom- protect your bones & joints & they will carry you through every journey of life

Dr. Manjunatha Reddy C

A Doctor should be the one who treats a Patient holistically, not just writes medication.

Dr. Rajendra J

Movement is a gift. Listen to your body nourish your joints, and keep going..

Dr. Sanjeev M N

Medicine is not just our profession—it is our commitment to healing, serving, and improving lives. A healthy society is built on compassion, trust, and care.

Dr. Shreekantha K S Rao

Take care of your knee before you age.

UROLOGIST

Dr Shivakumar K.S.

Together, let us create a culture where health awareness, responsible choices, and preventive care become priorities for every individual.

Dr Pramod B.R.

Wellness grows through consistency. Daily efforts toward healthy living often yield benefits far greater than occasional, short-term lifestyle changes alone.

Dr Rajendra Prasad K.N.

Your commitment to better health inspires us daily. Together, we can build stronger, healthier communities through awareness, education, and timely medical care.

Dr Srikanth V.

Every patient interaction reminds us of the privilege and responsibility that comes with helping individuals make informed healthcare decisions daily.

Dr Pramod Adiga

Education remains one of healthcare's most valuable tools, empowering individuals to make informed decisions and take charge of wellbeing.

Dr Jagadish Kaushik B

A healthier tomorrow begins with informed decisions today. Understanding health risks empowers individuals to make choices that support long-term wellbeing.

Dr Divyashree Bhat

Every individual has the power to influence their health through positive habits, informed decisions, and a commitment to self-care.

Dr Manjunath K.

Strength is not measured by circumstances but by the willingness to continue striving despite uncertainty, setbacks, and unexpected difficulties.

Dr Preetham Dev

Medicine combines science, compassion, and continuous learning to improve lives and create opportunities for healthier futures across communities worldwide.

DIABETOLOGIST

Dr. Prajwal K Dhanya

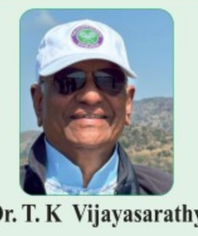
Behind every successful treatment is a doctor who goes above and beyond, facing challenges with courage and determination."Happy Doctors' day"

Dr. Raghurama N K

Behind every diagnosis is a doctor who carries the weight of their patients' hopes and fears."Happy Doctors' day"

Dr. B V S Reddy

In the face of adversity doctor rise to the occasion demonstrating resilience compassion and unwavering dedication to their patients happy doctor day



Dr. T. K Vijayasarathy

Doctor are not just healers they are everyday heroes navigating the complexities of life and death happy doctor day

Dr. Vedaprakash A

In the relentless pursuit of healing, doctors confront the complexities of illness, suffering, and human resilience with courage and compassion."Happy Doctors' day"

Dr. H Siddappa

Doctors don't just treat symptoms; they listen, empathize, and offer support to those in need."Happy Doctors' day"

CONSULTANT PHYSICIAN

Dr. Saqlain Nm

Behind every medical breakthrough is a doctor who refuses to accept the status quo, pushing boundaries and challenging conventions. "Happy Doctors' day"

Dr. K Annamalai

In a world where every decision matters, doctors carry the weight of responsibility on their shoulders. "Happy Doctors' day"

Dr. Veerana Gowda K M

Behind every medical decision is a doctor who grapples with uncertainty, complexity, and the weight of responsibility."Happy Doctors' day"

GYNAECOLOGIST

Dr. Rohitha C

Heavy menstrual bleeding is not something women should simply tolerate. Persistent excessive bleeding deserves attention and timely evaluation to protect overall well-being

Dr. Nishita Rao

Changes in menstrual flow can reflect important health concerns. Recognizing heavy menstrual bleeding early supports timely diagnosis and appropriate management.

Dr. V Narayanaswamy

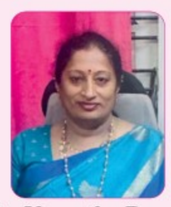
Heavy menstrual bleeding affects many women, yet remains under-recognized. Greater awareness can encourage timely conversations and evaluation

Dr. Aparna Kadithota

Fibroid Week highlights the importance of awareness, education, and timely action in supporting healthier futures for women everywhere

Dr. B Ramesh

Heavy menstrual bleeding can contribute to iron deficiency and anemia, affecting energy, productivity, and overall health



Dr. Vasantha Ramu

Changes in menstrual patterns, heavy bleeding, or persistent discomfort should never be overlooked. Menstrual health remains an important part of overall wellness

Dr. Anuprabha Karthik

Fibroid Week highlights the importance of awareness, education, and timely action in supporting healthier futures for women everywhere.

Dr. Nalina D

Understanding the cause of symptoms through timely diagnosis can reduce uncertainty and help women plan their healthcare journey effectively

FERTILITY SPECIALIST

Dr. Prashant Joshi

Fibroids vary in size, location, and symptoms. Management decisions should be tailored to each womans unique health needs and goals

THANK YOU DOCTORS

"Behind the Mask: Who Heals the Healers?"

HAPPY DOCTORS' DAY

*Data on file

HAPPY DOCTORS' DAY

Artist and activist K.T. Shivaprasad dies

Sathish G.T.
SHIVAMOGGA

K.T. Shivaprasad

K.T. Shivaprasad, an internationally acclaimed artist, social activist, photographer, and architect, passed away on Tuesday. He was 78.

Mr. Shivaprasad, a resident of Hassan, recently underwent surgery for a kidney infection and recovered. However, as he developed a breathing problem on Saturday, he was admitted to a hospital in Bengaluru. He breathed his last around 10 a.m. on Tuesday, according to family sources. He is survived by his wife, Suvarna.

Born on July 5, 1947, Mr. Shivaprasad was drawn to painting during his student days at Ramakrishna Ashrama in Mysuru. He enrolled to pursue a B.E. degree at Malnad College of Engineering in Hassan, but abandoned engineering to study at the Sir J.J. School of Art in Mumbai.

Upon returning to Hassan, Mr. Shivaprasad spent considerable time at his father's farmhouse on the city's outskirts, where he painted extensively.

Majorly influenced by writer Poornachandra Tejaswi and M.D. Nanjundaswamy, founder of the Karnataka Rajya Raitha Sangha (KRRS), Mr. Shivaprasad gradually transformed into a farmers' activist. He subsequently travelled extensively with the KRRS, deepening his understanding of agricultural crises, land dispossession, and the rights of cultivators.

During his involvement with the farmers' movement, Mr. Shivaprasad pursued architecture and photography parallelly. Many of the widely circulated photographs documenting the farmers' movement and rural struggles were captured by Mr. Shivaprasad.

His architectural practice began when Tejaswi commissioned him to design a residence. Among Mr. Shivaprasad's most celebrated works is Kavishaila, a memorial to Kannada poet and cultural icon Kuvempu at Kuppali in Tirthahalli taluk. In both conception and execution, Kavishaila embodies the philosophy of Aniketana which lies at the heart of Kuvempu's literary and spiritual legacy.

Artist Babu Eshwar Prasad, a longtime associate of Mr. Shivaprasad, said, "After graduating from the Sir J.J. School of Art, Mr. Shivaprasad initially pursued experimental abstraction. As he engaged more deeply with rural communities and farmworkers, his approach shifted towards figurative realism."

His family sources said that his mortal remains will be kept on the Kannada Sahitya Parishat premises in Hassan between 10 a.m and 1 p.m on Wednesday. The final rites will be held later in the day.

Don't hide details of your children's drug addiction, help fight the menace: CM

State launches awareness campaigns, 'Operation RISE' and 'Beda Bro', to fight the drug menace

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

D.K. Shivakumar. FILE PHOTO

Chief Minister D.K. Shivakumar appealed to parents of children who are addicted to narcotics to not hide information fearing societal stigma, but to take the police into confidence and help the State root out the menace.

"Seek help to get your children out of addiction, we will help you. The information will help us fight the menace. I will instruct police officials to keep the names of your children confidential," he said, adding that those who provide information regarding drug peddlers will be rewarded.

He was speaking at the Karnataka State Police's event to mark International Day Against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking-2026, after launching two awareness campaigns – 'Operation RISE' and 'Beda Bro' – to fight the menace.

He said his government aimed to make Karnataka free of narcotics by 2028. "This cannot be achieved by the police alone, but is possible only when society at large, youth, students, parents and educational institutions join hands," he said.

Twin campaigns

Operation RISE, an acronym for Refuse, Inform, Support and Empower, seeks to encourage young people to refuse drugs, spread awareness about the harmful effects of narcotics, promote counselling and rehabilitation services, and involve families, educational institutions and communities in early intervention.

The initiative brings together multiple government departments, including the Police, Revenue, Transport, Higher Education, Medical Education, Health and Family Welfare, and the Drugs Controller, to jointly strengthen enforcement, monitor illegal drug activities, conduct awareness programmes and improve rehabilitation services.

The government also launched the Beda Bro campaign, a youth-centric awareness programme aimed at discouraging substance abuse through simple, relatable messaging. The campaign will focus on educating young people about the physical, mental, social and legal consequences of drug abuse while encouraging healthy alternatives such as sports, education and skill development.

Home Minister Priyank Kharge said peer pressure had been identified as one of the key reasons why students start consuming narcotics.

"A wrong influence can ruin the life of a student. We need to educate and empower students and the youth to resist this peer pressure. Fighting drugs is not the job of the police alone. The entire society should be a part of it," he said.

Operation RISE is an acronym for Refuse, Inform, Support and Empower

Narcotics cases

	2025	2026 (as of May 31)
Total value of seizures	₹216.93 crore	₹184.72 crore
Total accused booked	9,064	6,651
Peddlers apprehended	2,611	1,406
Consumers booked	6,455	5,090
Manufacturers apprehended	41	17

Empowering ANTF, special courts for NDPS cases

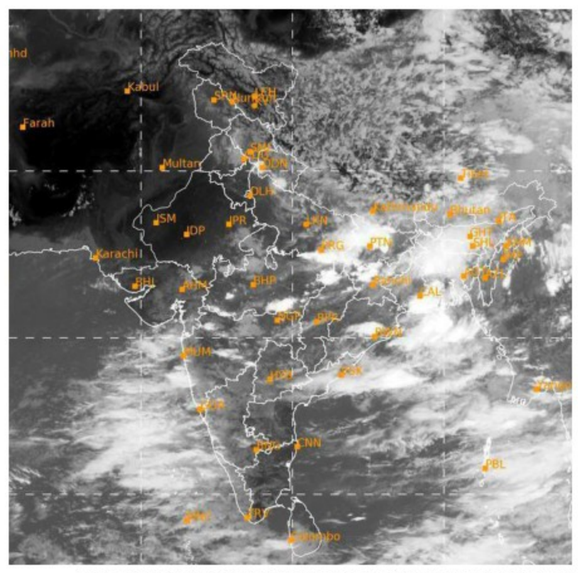
The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The State government has decided to empower the Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) by providing it with police station powers. Presently, ANTF, formed as per the guidelines of the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, only coordinates and reviews investigations in narcotics cases, but has no powers to register cases and investigate them independently. Its counterparts in other States already have these powers.

The government is also mulling over establishing dedicated special courts for speedy disposal of cases under the Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985, upgrading district hospitals for drug consumption testing and enhancing the capabilities of the Forensic Science Laboratories (FSL).

WEATHERWATCH

Rainfall, temperature & air quality in select metros yesterday



TEMPERATURE DATA: IMD, POLLUTION DATA: CPCB, MAP: INSAT/IMD (TAKEN AT 13.15 HRS)

Forecast for Wednesday: Heavy/very heavy rainfall likely at isolated places over Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Tripura, Sikkim, West Bengal, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Telangana, Maharashtra, Konkan & Goa, Karnataka, Kerala and Mahe

CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN	CITY	RAIN	MAX	MIN
Agartala	—	35.2	26.9	Kurnool	—	34.5	26.2
Ahmedabad	—	40.1	29.7	Lucknow	—	32.1	26.0
Aizawl	0.2	31.5	21.1	Madurai	—	39.0	25.6
Bengaluru	—	28.5	20.7	Mangaluru	43.4	28.1	23.1
Bhopal	—	30.6	25.0	Mumbai	27.8	30.2	24.9
Bhubaneswar	11	28.4	25.0	Mysuru	—	29.8	20.0
Chandigarh	—	37.0	29.8	New Delhi	—	40.5	30.2
Chennai	3.8	38.1	29.0	Patna	—	32.0	28.0
Coimbatore	—	32.2	22.0	Port Blair	9	31.6	26.3
Dehradun	31.8	33.5	26.3	Prayagraj	—	38.4	29.0
Gangtok	44	20.7	18.2	Puducherry	—	37.7	28.2
Goa	67.4	31.0	23.6	Pune	2	29.1	22.8
Guwahati	0.2	35.9	27.0	Raipur	—	33.8	25.0
Hubballi	—	26.0	23.0	Ranchi	—	29.0	22.0
Hyderabad	—	33.2	24.7	Shillong	—	27.0	19.0
Imphal	1.4	30.5	24.5	Shimla	—	27.8	20.0
Jaipur	—	39.6	31.4	Srinagar	—	35.2	22.5
Kochi	11.6	28.4	23.8	Thiruvananthapuram	9.2	32.1	24.9
Kohima	—	24.0	20.0	Tiruchirappalli	—	38.7	27.0
Kolkata	0.1	32.8	26.7	Vijayawada	1	36.0	25.6
Kozhikode	28.2	28.4	24.3	Visakhapatnam	—	32.1	29.8

(Rainfall data in mm; temperature in Celsius)

Pollutants in the air you are breathing

CITIES	SO_2	NO_2	CO	PM2.5	PM10	CODE
Ahmedabad	.42	.23	.22	39	94	
Bengaluru	.11	.32	.51	—	105	
Chennai	.5	.14	.55	40	53	
Delhi	.15	.39	.52	276	160	
Hyderabad	.14	.13	.32	50	74	
Kolkata	.17	.26	.29	76	91	
Lucknow	7	.29	.55	40	61	
Mumbai	4	.26	.76	29	42	
Pune	—	.27	104	33	46	
Visakhapatnam	.27	.61	.17	61	119	

Yesterday

In observation made at 4.00 p.m., Panipat, Haryana recorded an overall air quality index (AQI) score of 317 indicating an unhealthy level of pollution. In contrast, Madikeri, Karnataka recorded a healthy AQI score of 14

Air Quality Code: Poor Moderate Good (Readings indicate average AQI)

SO_2: Sulphur Dioxide. Short-term exposure can harm the respiratory system, making breathing difficult. It can affect visibility by reacting with other air particles to form haze and stain culturally important objects such as statues and monuments.

NO_2: Nitrogen Dioxide. Aggravates respiratory illness, causes haze to form by reacting with other air particles, causes acid rain, pollutes coastal waters.

CO: Carbon monoxide. High concentration in air reduces oxygen supply to critical organs like the heart and brain. At very high levels, it can cause dizziness, confusion, unconsciousness and even death.

PM2.5 & PM10: Particulate matter pollution can cause irritation of the eyes, nose and throat, coughing, chest tightness and shortness of breath, reduced lung function, irregular heartbeat, asthma attacks, heart attacks and premature death in people with heart or lung disease

HC fines PSI ₹1 lakh for securing stay on FIR

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has imposed a fine of ₹1 lakh on a woman police sub-inspector for securing an interim order of stay from the court on a First Information Report (FIR) by deliberately concealing the crucial fact that the FIR against her had been registered pursuant to the court's own direction.

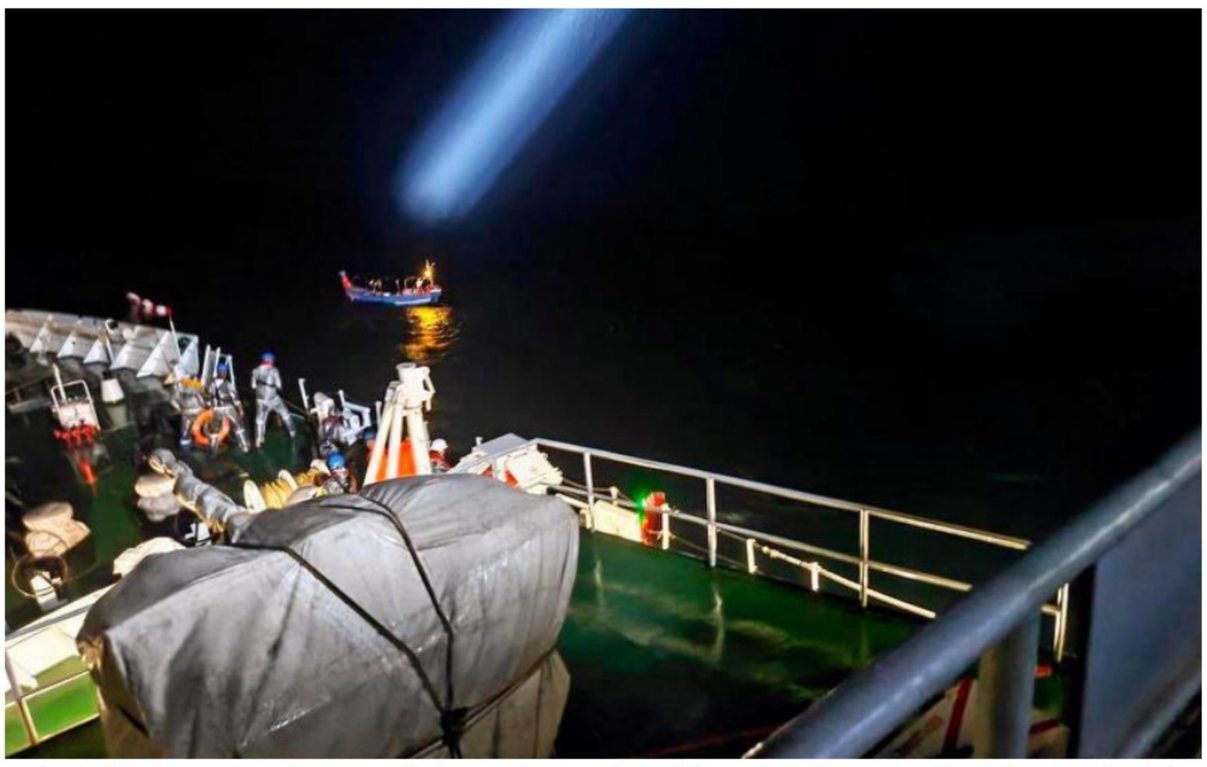
Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while dismissing the petition filed by the sub-inspector, Padmavathi T.B, who had challenged the FIR registered against her on the very direction issued by the High Court itself in April.

The petitioner had "maintained studied silence" and not even whispered about the orders passed by the High Court in an earlier petition directing the registration of a criminal case against her after reviewing CCTV footage that captured her physically assaulting a lady advocate inside a police station in Bengaluru city.

"The concealment is not peripheral; it is foundational. Had the co-ordinate Bench been apprised that the registration of the FIR was not a routine police action but one born out of a specific judicial direction issued by the High Court itself after *prima facie* satisfaction of the petitioner's overt misconduct, the consideration for grant of interim relief would have stood on an altogether different footing," the court observed.

The issue originates from a road rage incident in 2025, when the advocate's car was allegedly damaged.

Search and rescue


Indian Coast Guard personnel during an operation to rescue fishermen from a distressed boat off Mangaluru, Karnataka, on Monday night. All six crew members aboard the boat that suffered hull damage amid rough sea conditions were rescued, the ICG said. ANI

Karnataka High Court declines to grant relief to school

The Hindu Bureau
BENGALURU

The High Court of Karnataka has refused to quash a criminal case against a private school in Mandya district, where a class 4 student lost complete vision in one eye after fellow students sprayed coloured sparklers inside a school bus, which allegedly had no attendant to supervise the children.

Citing a series of issues that "cry for investigation", the court asked whether there was an attendant on the bus, whether a CCTV camera had been installed, and, if so, whether it was merely ornamental or functional. The court also sought to know whether prohibited or dangerous materials were allowed to be carried by children, whether the school had issued and enforced adequate safety instructions, and whether the management had failed in its duty of supervision.

School from Koppa

Justice M. Nagaprasanna passed the order while dismissing a petition filed by Divyajyothi School, Gollaradoddi village, Koppa hobali, Madduru taluk, Mandya. The school had challenged the First Information Report (FIR) registered against it in September 2025.

The contention of the school that the act of causing injury was that of another child, and therefore, the school management must stand completely absolved at the threshold, cannot be accepted at this stage, the court said, while observing that the precise contours of culpability, if any, can be delineated only after investigation. While the school claimed that a CCTV camera was installed in the bus, it was argued on behalf of the complainant that it was not functioning.

The incident occurred on August 1, 2025, when the boy was returning home. During the journey, some children allegedly sprayed coloured confetti inside the bus, some of which entered the boy's eyes. Despite treatment, the child lost complete vision in one eye and partial vision in the other.

Nurses resume strike in Kerala as wage talks end in stalemate

The Hindu Bureau
THRISSUR

A wage dispute between the United Nurses Association (UNA) and the managements of Kerala's Amala Institute of Medical Sciences and Jubilee Mission Medical College & Research Institute remains unresolved, with nurses shifting their protest to the Collectorate after talks failed to resolve the issue.

The nurses, who have been on strike for nearly three months demanding that the minimum salary be raised to ₹40,000, intensified their agitation on Sunday by staging a sit-in outside the Thrissur Archdiocese headquarters. The discussions with the management, held in the presence of Thrissur Archbishop Mar Andrews Thazhath, ended without an agreement.

According to UNA representatives, Youth Affairs and Sports Minister O.J. Janeesh contacted the protesters and sought five days' time, assuring them that a decision would be taken after the ongoing Assembly session. Following the assurance, the nurses withdrew their protest outside the Archbishop's residence. After a meeting with Thrissur District Collector Shikha Surendran on Monday, they shifted their agitation to the Collectorate.

Woman and newborn found dead in Kerala lodge

The Hindu Bureau
THRISSUR

A 30-year-old woman and her newborn baby were found dead in a lodge room in Kerala's Thrissur on Tuesday, with the police launching an investigation into the circumstances surrounding the deaths.

The deceased was identified as Jyothi, a native of Edamuttam near Thriprayar. The bodies were found in a lodge at Veliyannur. As per the police, Jyothi is suspected to have given birth inside the room.

The exact cause and time of death will be determined after the post-mortem examination.

Become job creators, not job seekers, President tells graduating students in A.P.

The Hindu Bureau
VISAKHAPATNAM

President Droupadi Murmu on Tuesday urged students to become job creators rather than job seekers and dedicate themselves to the development of society and the nation.

Addressing the first convocation of the Central Tribal University in Visakhapatnam, she congratulated the graduating students, medal winners, faculty members and parents, describing the convocation as a milestone and the beginning of a greater responsibility towards society.

President Droupadi Murmu presents a degree certificate to a student in Visakhapatnam on Tuesday. SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

She said a degree represents not only academic achievement but also an opportunity to contribute to nation-building.

Ms. Murmu, who was accompanied by Union Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan and State Education Minister Nara Lokesh, noted that nearly 40% of the graduates receiving degrees were women, while around 70% of the gold medal winners were women.

She urged students to equip themselves with emerging skills to remain relevant in a rapidly changing world and advised them to look beyond textbooks by learning from their surroundings and developing practical skills. At the same time, they should remain connected to their communities, culture and traditions while working for the betterment of society and the nation.

Recalling that she was the first graduate from her village, Ms. Murmu said many students at the convocation were likely the first graduates in their families. She urged them to become pillars of strength for both their families and society.

Quoting her father's advice, she said that while one should always move forward in life, it is equally important to look back and support those who are still struggling.